

24 PAGES; PRICE 200 RIALS

VOL. XVIII; No. 180; THURSDAY NOVEMBER 7, 1996; ABAN 17, 1375; JAMADIAL-SANI 25, 1417

Arab League 'Astonished' at British OSCE Proposal

CAIRO — The Arab League on Wednesday expressed "astonishment" over a British proposal to set up a grouping in the Middle East modelled on the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE).

The secretary general of the 22-member pan-Arab organization, Esmat Abdel Meguid, summoned the British ambassador in Egypt David Blatherwick to criticize the proposal.

(Contd on Pg. 14)

Bomb Strike Narrowly Misses UN Advisor

KABUL — A bomb strike by a low-flying anti-Taleban jet narrowly missed the military advisor to the UN peace mission to Afghanistan on the last day of his tour of duty Wednesday.

"We were assessing the military situation on the northern frontlines when out of the blue a jet swooped on us and dropped a couple of bombs," United Nations military advisor Colonel William Egar told AFP.

(AFP)

Clinton Re-Elected, Republicans Control Congress



CLINTON

WASHINGTON — President Bill Clinton, all but written off politically two years ago, capped a stunning comeback with a resounding re-election victory Tuesday but failed to carry his Democratic Party to power in Congress.

Television projections gave Clinton a 50-41 percent win over Republican Bob Dole with nine percent for reform party candidate Ross Perot. In the electoral votes, Clinton swamped Dole 379-159 after polling that drew a record low turnout.

The projections showed the Republicans won the battle for Congress which they captured in 1994, setting the stage for at least two more years of divided rule between the executive and the legislature.

Still, it was a dramatic comeback for Clinton, who only two years ago was reeling from the Conservative landslide in Congress and awkwardly insisting that he was still politically relevant.

Not since Franklin Roosevelt in 1944 has a Democrat managed to be re-elected to the presidency. Clinton, 50, also was the youngest president to win a second term.

Dole, 73, telephoned Clinton to concede defeat in his third bid for the White House.

"The president is my opponent and not my enemy. I wish him well," Dole told supporters in Washington, assuring them that after a 35-year congressional career he was not retiring from public life.

Television projections showed that Clinton had won 31 states and the district of Columbia, giving him 109 more electoral votes than the 270 needed. Dole took 19 states.

The president campaigned on middle-of-the-road themes of budget deficit reduction, welfare reform and the fight against crime, holding off Dole despite the Republican challenger's marathon campaign windup and scathing attacks on is character.

Speaker to Run for Presidential Election



NOURI

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN — Jame'a Rohaniyat-e Mobarez (JRM) nominated Majlis Speaker Ali Akbar Nateq Nouri to run for the 7th round of presidential elections due to be held next June.

In the first official reaction, the JRM's Spokesman, Hojjatoleslam Seyed Reza Taghavi on Tuesday announced that

holding several sessions, the JRM's Central Council voted for Nateq Nouri to be nominated as its candidate for the next presidential elections.

He stressed that the decision was made in line with the Society of Qom Theology School's Teachers (Jame'a Moddarressin).

Asian Countries Capable of Fulfilling Each Other's Needs



Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN — President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, in a meeting here yesterday with the South Korean Minister of Commerce, Industries and Energy Park-Jae-Yoon stressed that, presently, a large number of signifi-

(Contd on Pg. 14)

Several Injured as PPP Protest Bhutto Sacking

OUSTED BHUTTO CALLS ON PRESIDENT TO STEP DOWN

ISLAMABAD — At least 20 people were detained and several injured as the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) held a demonstration Wednesday to protest against the ousting a day earlier of Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto.

The PPP members chanted "Benazir Innocent" and marched in two small groups to Parliament but were quickly dispersed near the building by police.

Later a third group of about 100 PPP youth came out from the PPP central secretariat shouting "Leghari Dog", referring to President Farooq Ahmed Leghari, who sacked Bhutto early Tuesday.

Baton-wielding police pounced on the group and threw a few teargas shells at them as they torched an effigy of Leghari, a former prominent PPP leader until his accession to the presidency in November 1993.

The demonstrators retaliated by throwing rocks at police as they ran back into the PPP office. Witnesses said some were beaten by police and about a dozen were taken away.

Windows in the PPP office, located in a one-way street, were

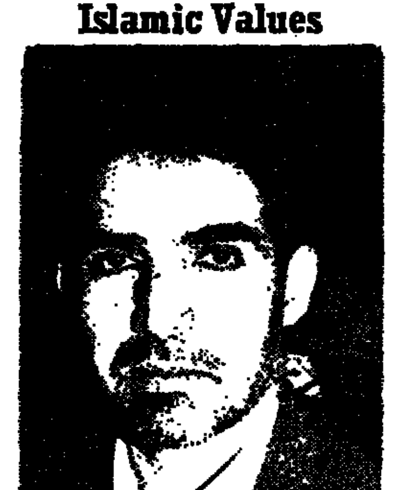
(Contd on Pg. 14)



ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (November 5): Three Pakistani armed services chiefs chat in a good mood during the oath taking ceremony of the interim prime minister at President house in Islamabad. From R: Abbas Khattak, chief of air staff, Admiral Mansoorul Haq, chief of naval staff and General Jhangir Karamat, chief of army staff.

(AFP PHOTO

Cultural Assault Should Be Countered With Upholding Islamic Values



GOLZARI

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN — A member of the Public Culture Council and Advisor to head of the Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting (IRIB), Mahmoud Golzari, said that upholding the Islamic values and ideals of the Islamic Revolution introduced by the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran late Imam Khomeini is the most appropriate counterattack that would foil the Western cultural aggression against the Iranian Muslim people.

Speaking with the *Tehran Times*, Golzari reiterated that the Islamic Republic of Iran, established through successful culmination of a glorious revolution, is a real manifestation of Islamic values. He noted that, through observing such values, the vigilant Iranian nation will be able to thwart the cultural plots of the enemies aimed at subverting Islam.

(Contd on Pg. 14)

Yeltsin Resumes Nuclear Control, Meets Premier

MOSCOW — President Boris Yeltsin resumed control of Russia's nuclear button and held his first official meeting Wednesday as he made a rapid recovery from his multiple bypass heart operation, the Kremlin said.

Yeltsin signed a decree at 6:00 a.m. (0300 GMT) resuming full presidential powers, including control of the nuclear arsenal, which he had delegated to Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin, next in line under the constitution, just before his operation Tuesday.

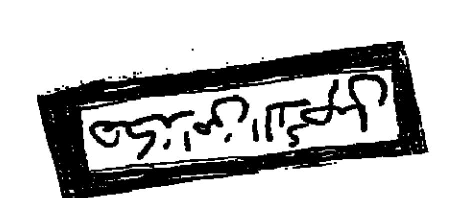
Kremlin spokesman Sergei Yastrzhembsky said the president, 65, had been removed from his artificial respirator early Wednesday and was rapidly regaining his strength.

(Contd on Pg. 14)

Invitation to International Tender

National Iranian Copper Industries Co. (NICICO)

(See Page 9)



TEHRAN TIMES

TEHRAN TIMES NEWS SERVICE
Editor-in-Chief, Tel: 8809500
Editorial Office, Tel: 8810293-5
Electronic Access Tel: 8809437
8809470
Telex: 213662 TTIM IR
224569 TTIP IR
Fax No. 8808214
Address: No. 32, Koucheh Bimeh
Nejatollahi Ave. [former Villa]
Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran
Printed at Keyhan

In the Name of Allah

Therefore We inflicted retribution on them and drowned them in the sea because they rejected Our signs and were heedless of them.

(HOLY QORAN)(7:136)

OPINION

Clinton's Second Term: An Opportunity to Rectify Past Mistakes

The Democrats are back to the White House with Bill Clinton's reelection as U.S. president. Although Clinton has a satisfactory record with regard to curbing inflation and boosting economic growth at home, his foreign policy record is not so bright for some quite obvious reasons.

Ever since 1994, especially during the past few months, the U.S. foreign policy has unfortunately been affected by electioneering campaigns and manipulated by the powerful Zionist lobby in the U.S. As a matter of fact, in the United States today, it is neither the Democrats nor the Republicans who seal the fate of their country, but the Zionist lobby, which dictates its terms to the incumbent of the White House.

With the collapse of the bipolar world order, the U.S. leaders appeared very optimistic about their role as the world's only superpower and boasted that they would lead the world to the 21st century. But practically, not only have they not been able to materialize their pledge, but they have also proved helpless in even introducing a sound foreign policy for their own country. And what is worse, the American nation has been demoted to a stooge of the influential Zionist circles. Thus, it is no wonder that the deviser of the new world order has failed to project itself as a superpower in the post Cold War era.

Although the American citizens should somewhat bear the responsibility for their present miserable condition through electing self-seeking politicians like Clinton, the U.S. politicians should bear the brunt of the criticism for reducing the liberal-minded American people to servants of the influential Zionist minority. In other words Bill Clinton has been imposed on the American people by the Zioninst-controlled media.

The Democrats and the Republicans should bear in mind that the unilateral measures and extra-territorial laws that the Clinton administration advocated have all backfired and landed the American foreign policy in a total fiasco. The world is no longer an arena for the U.S. irrational adventurism.

Indeed, the U.S. reelected president should learn to respect the rights of other nations, including his trade partners and strategic allies in the EU and in Asia. He should also learn to respect the rights of small states since according to the UN Charter, all members of the General Assembly enjoy equal status. He should learn to live in peace with less powerful countries, for they can endanger the U.S. interests if Washington ignores their rights.

Just recently, the Assistant Secretary of State Robert Pelletreau reaffirmed Washington's long-standing willingness to begin a dialogue with Iran. Although President Clinton does no longer need to rely on the Zionist lobby as much as he used to do in his first term, we hope that such an offer indicates the determination on the part of the White House to adopt a rational attitude towards Iran.

It is crystal clear that Iran has been able to go ahead with its development projects without any reliance on the U.S. or seeking assistance from Washington. It is also a reality that the U.S. plots targeting Iran have all ended in utter failure. In addition, it is an indisputable fact that the U.S. cannot play down Iran's pivotal role in the region. Hence, the ball is for sure in the U.S. court.

Unless the U.S. stops its interference in our internal affairs, refuses to submit to the Zionist lobby. respects Iran's sovereignty and independent line in foreign policy, recognizes the values upheld by the Islamic Revolution and releases our frozen assets, the icy relations between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the United States will not begin to thaw.

Besides, the Middle East peace plan appeared to be an important issue on the eve of the U.S. presidential election. However. the White House turned out to be biased in favor of the Israelis in the course of the Mideast peace process and, therefore, lost its credibility as an impartial mediator. Moreover, by annually providing 1.8 billion dollars in military aid and 1.2 billion dollars in non-military assistance to Israel, the U.S. has become a party to the Zionist demands. Thus far, the U.S. has failed to achieve its formerly announced objectives regarding the Mideast peace. This is another issue which should be reviewed by the U.S. policy makers. In short, Clinton should use his second term to rectify his past mistakes.

South Korean Minister Confers With Velayati


Photo: Abbas Kowsari

TEHRAN — The visiting South Korean Minister of Trade, Industry and Energy Park Jae Yoon here on Wednesday expressed pleasure with the outcome of the fifth session of Tehran-Seoul Joint Economic Commission.

In a meeting with Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati. Yoon termed Tehran-Seoul economic relations excellent and expressed the possibility of enhancing the level of cooperation between the two countries in view of various grounds that exist in this respect.

The South Korean minister called for further partnership of South Korea in Iran's Second Five-Year Development Plan.

Velayati, referring to the background of Tehran-Seoul relations. said the two countries have had close relations since the victory of the Islamic Revolution and the volume of trade exchange would further rise.

Velayati said the Joint Economic Commission would serve as a framework for development of mutual trade and economic cooperation. *(IRNA)*

Tehran-Pyongyang Cooperation Discussed

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN — Interior Minister Ali Mohammad Besharati here on Tuesday hailed DPRK's support for the Islamic Republic of Iran in the past and voiced Tehran's readiness to cooperate with Pyongyang in political and security fields. anti-narcotic campaign and extradition of criminals.

He made the remark in a meeting with visiting Acting Minister of Democratic People's Republic of Korea. Quan Jin Tak.

Besharati further called for promotion of Tehran-Pyongyang ties. adding that any discord among countries in the world will strengthen the U.S. bullying policies.

Besharati lauded DPRK's efforts for development and said Iran and Democratic People's Republic of Korea share in certain stance such as struggle for independence.

Expressing satisfaction over the first round of talks between DPRK and the Iranian officials. Besharati hoped that visits would pave the way for expansion of ties between the two countries

On Tuesday. the DPRK delegation held a meeting with the Iranian Deputy Interior Minister for Law and Order Gholam Hossein Bolandian.

Head of the Korean delegation Quan Jin Tak. who is acting minister of national security of DPRK, paid tribute to the Founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran. the late Imam Khomeini. and said relations between Iran and DPRK had been firmly founded.

The DPRK official said Iran and Korea had a common enemy. namely the U.S. government. and that they both were striving hard to protect the fruits of their revolution on the face of Washington.

He said the Democratic People's Republic of Korea appreciated Tehran's support for Pyongyang in its struggle against the U.S. administration and that it was willing to profit from the Islamic Republic of Iran's experience in maintaining security and peace.

Bolandian said at the meeting that Tehran and Pyongyang had relations based on their common principles that were against global arrogance.

He referred to DPRK's support for Iran during the imposed war on Iran and expressed hope that

(Contd on Pg.15)


TEHRAN (Nov. 6) — *Acting Minister of National Security of* DPRK Quan Jin Tak (L) and Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati discuss further enhancement of Tehran-Pyongyang relations.
Photo: Abbas Kowsari

President Congratulates New Bulgarian Counterpart

TEHRAN — In a cable to Petar Stoyanov Tuesday. Iran's President Hojjatoleslam Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani felicitated him on the occasion of his taking office as president of Bulgaria.

President Rafsanjani also expressed hope that historical relations between Bulgaria and Iran would further develop.

Stoyanov. 44. a lawyer by profession, won the elections on Sunday polling 60 peircent of the total votes cast by the Bulgarian electorate. *(IRNA)*

President Condoles Oman's Sultan

TEHRAN — In a cable to Sultan Qaboos bin Said of Oman Tuesday, President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani expressed his condolence to him on the occasion of the death of the Sultanate's Deputy Prime Minister for Security and Defense. Fahr bin Taimour as-Said.

Fahr bin Taimour. who was an uncle of Sultan Qaboos. died on Saturday. *(IRNA)*

Zaire Calls on Iran to Mediate Dispute With Rwanda

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN—Zaire's interior minister, in a telephone conversation with Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati. thanked Iran for its measures taken to resolve Sudan's dispute with neighboring Uganda.

Calling on the Islamic Republic to take "humanitarian measures" to help resolve the conflict between the two Central African states of Zaire and Rwanda. the interior minister said his country would send a delegation to Iran to explain the situation east of Zaire and to ask for Iranian mediation through the UN and Security Council.

The Iranian foreign minister alluded to the peaceful and humanitarian efforts already taken by the Islamic Republic of Iran to settle the crisis and announced Iran's readiness to receive the delegation to be dispatched by Zaire.

Velayati announced, "Moved by humanitarianism. Iran regrets the events broken out in the eastern. borders of Zaire and announces its readiness to help restore peace in the region should Zaire and its neighbors desire."

FM Spokesman to Britain: Physician! Heal thyself

TEHRAN — Spokesman of Iran's Foreign Ministry Mahmoud Mohammadi here Tuesday said in response to allegations levelled by the British government against the Islamic Republic that it is Britain which has an arsenal of weapons of mass destruction and is a supporter of the terrorist acts of the Zionist entity.

"The unfounded accusations by the British Foreign Secretary Malcolm Rifkind suggesting Iran's efforts for access to atomic programs and opposition to terrorism and the compromising trend (between the Zionist entity and certain Arab states)." said Mohammadi. "would make normal relations between Iran and Britain difficult."

The Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman noting the difficulty of mutual respect in Britain's relations with independent countries such as Iran. said. "Britain has not only weapons of mass destruction but also supports terrorist acts of the Zionist regime."

He said the present century is one characterized by preferences for national and regional policies. adding. "Any nation prefering its own interests to the interests of Britain and the Zionist regime cannot have natural relations with Britain. because certain British politicians deal with other nations according to the dictates of their past colonialist ideology.

"Those politicians would do better to accept the reality of the setting of the sun of the British colonial empire, and establish relations with other nations on the basis of mutual respect. and avoid sowing discord and interfering in the Persian Gulf."

Rifkind made his unfounded charges against Islamic Iran in Abu Dhabi where he is trying to work out a defense pact between Britain and the UAE.

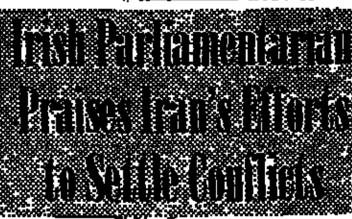
Mohammadi turning to the tension in the Caucasus termed the announcement to hold presidential elections in the self-declared Republic of Karabakh "unacceptable".

"Respect for the political geography of the region, and unacceptability of changes in internationally recognized borders. are among the principles of the foreign policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran," he added.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman continued. "Iran stresses peaceful settlement of the issue of Karabakh by direct talks between principal parties to the conflict. Any elections to be held in Karabakh will only aggravate the present status of affairs in that region. It will not help solve the crisis but it will cause the present cease-fire to break and will lead to resumption of fightings.

"The Islamic Republic of Iran

(Contd on Pg.15)



Irish Parliamentarian Praises Iran's Efforts to Settle Conflicts

TEHRAN — The visiting Chairman of the European Commission of the Irish Parliament. Michael Ferris, in his meeting with Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati here on Tuesday, called for expansion of Tehran-Dublin ties as well as upgrading political talks between Iran and the European Union (EU).

Ferris noted that the Irish Parliament is unanimously in favor of promotion and consolidation of bilateral relations with Islamic Iran in the political. economic, parliamentary and cultural fields.

Referring to "common interests" of the two countries. he termed the idea of reciprocal visits by Iranian and Irish officials. notably by parliament members "positive".

The Irish official whose country currently holds the rotating chairmanship of the EU, underscored political cooperation and talks between Iran and EU. and voiced Ireland's support in this regard.

He also stressed the importance

(Contd on Pg.15)



Indonesia Expecting Annual $1bn Trade With Iran

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN - Indonesia's President Mohamed Suharto told Iranian Minister of Post, Telegraph and Telephones, Mohammad Gharazi, in Jakarta Tuesday that his government looked forward to increasing the total value of Iran-Indonesia annual trade exchanges to $one billion.

He predicted that by the year 2,000, Indonesia would have to buy more oil, and epxressed hope that Iran would supply Indonesia with its oil needs, IRNA reported.

Gharazi told Suharto that as a general principle, the Iranian government placed a priority on developing trade with South and Southeast Asia.

He also expressed hope that the value of trade exchanges between Iran and Indonesia would rise from the present $400 million to $one billion.

Tehran, Seoul to Raise Volume of Trade to $2bn Yearly

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN - Iran and South Korea are to raise the volume of their trade transactions to $two billion annually by the year end (to end March 20, 1997) from $1.6 billion last year under a protocol signed at the end of the fifth session of Tehran-Seoul Joint Economic Commission here on Wednesday.

Talking to reporters, Hamid Mirzadeh, vice president and head of the Plan and Budget Organization, said the volume of commercial transactions between Iran and South Korea is to reach $four billion in coming years, IRNA reported.

Mirzadeh said that Tehran session paved the way for upgrading the level of bilateral economic and technical cooperation and boosting mutual commercial and economic ties.

He said that Tehran and Seoul reached agreement to expand bilateral trade, financial, monetary, technical and industrial cooperation, make joint investments, and to cooperate in areas of energy, culture and tourism.

He added that Iran and South Korea have agreed to convene joint economic commission annually to deepen bilateral ties.

The Iranian vice president continued that Korea is to buy more crude oil from Iran from now on and to expand its cooperation with the Islamic Republic in the fields of energy management, car making, copper industry and ship building.

Among other points agreed upon by the participants in the session enumerated Mirzadeh, are elimination of double taxation mechanism, air transportation and investment in the Iranian free trade zones by South Korean entrepreneurs.

The South Korean minister said for his part that Iranian and South Korean representatives to the session launched sincere efforts for expansion of bilateral economic ties between the private sectors of both countries.

Park underlined that d'Amato bill passed by the U.S. Senate would not be able to affect the volume of transactions between Iran and South Korea.

Iran Exports 35mkw Power Per Hour

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN - Export of some 350 million kw electricity per hour a year to the neighboring states, will bring some $15 million to the country, it was announced here Wednesday.

Bahman Masoudi, deputy of state power company in charge of planning told IRNA that the amount of electricity being exported to the neighboring states including Turkmenistan, the Autonomous Republic of Nakhichevan and Turkey is negligible as compared to domestic needs.

The amount is equal to some 0.5 percent of the total electricity generated in the country and does not create any problem in providing the electricity needs of the country, he said.

Iranian Companies Attend OIC Meet

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN - Four Iranian shipping companies are attending the General Assembly of the Islamic Union of Ship Owners which opened at the headquarters of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC), in Jeddah, Saudia Arabia, on Tuesday.

Representatives from Val-Fajr, Khazar, Islamic Republic of Iran, and Oil Tankers shipping companies are present at the meeting, IRNA reported.

On the agenda are issues relating to establishing a shipping information center for Islamic countries, assessment of a proposal to create a joint shipping company among Islamic nations, technical and management training, and ways to meet the shipping needs of member states.

Iran, Turkey Ink Gas Pipeline Protocol



Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN - A protocol for builiding a pipeline for conduiting Iranian gas to Turkey was signed by Oil Minister of Iran Gholamreza Aqazadeh and Energy Minister of Turkey Recai Kutan in Ankara Tuesday.

The protocol anticiaptes Iran's gas export to Turkey to start in 1998, after completion of the pipeline from the northwestern Iranian city of Tabriz to the eastern Turkish city of Erzurum, IRNA reported.

Iranian Oil Minister said Tuesday that the agreement for the purpose had been signed during Turkish Prime Minister Necmettin Erbakan's visit to Tehran last August.

The Energy Minister of Turkey said that Turkey was bent on developing relations with her neighbors and especially with the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Kutan said importing gas from Iran would be the most economical means for Turkey to do so.

He said that initially Turkey would import 3 billion cubic meters of Iranian natural gas which would be increased to 10 billion cubic meters in the year 2005.

On the basis of the 30-year agreement Iran and Turkey have undertaken the costs for laying pipelines on their own territories. Work is to start in next March and in the first phase of the project, Turkey would lay a 250-km pipeline from the Iranian border to Erzurum.

The Iranian oil minister arrived in Ankara Monday heading a ranking delegation from Iran.

UN Officials Due Today

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN — Chief Officer of the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol (MFIMP), Dr. Omar El-Arini, is to arrive here today to discuss with Iranian officials progress in efforts at protecting the earth's ozone layer, a press release from the UN Information Center here stated.

Accompanying Dr. El-Arini is Dr. Archalus Tcheknavorian, managing director of the industrial sector and environment division of the United Nations Development Organization (UNIDO). Both UN officials are to discuss with Iranian authorities implementation and progress of projects that concern the phasing out of ozone depleting substances (ODS) in Iranian refrigerator-producing companies.

MFIMP, which finances international efforts at protecting the ozone layer, and UNIDO are both involved in the Iranian project and Iran is one of the biggest countries in terms of project implementation and financing.

Turkey to Go Ahead With Trade Agreements With Iran

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN - Energy Minister of Turkey Recai Kutan said in Ankara yesterday that despite Washington's opposition his country would proceed with the agreement to buy natural gas from Iran. He said Turkey does not make decisions to please the U.S. government but to protect its own interests.

Kutan, addressing a joint press conference along with visiting Iranian Oil Minister Gholamreza Aqazadeh, said Washington had tried to portray the Iranian government as "a terrorist state" but that such allegations were invalid, IRNA reported.

He called U.S. policies as "double-standard" and said that Washington had also frequently accused Damascus of supporting terrorism, but when American interests mattered, Bill Clinton had visited Hafez Assad as did frequently the U.S. Secretary of State Christopher.

The Turkish official said his government bought as much as four million tons of oil from Iran annually which last year went up to five million.

Iran's gas exports to Turkey is to start in 1998.

Iranian Oil Minister Gholamreza Aqazadeh said that in the wake of last August's visit to Tehran by Turkish Prime Minister Necmettin Erbakan, trade relations between the two neighboring countries had improved.

He said the two countries were making efforts to increase the volume of bilateral trade exchanges to as much as $2 billion annually.

The agreement for supply of Iranian natural gas to Turkey was signed in Ankara on Tuesday by the two ministers.

Iran to Sell Concession for Technology of Qaem Steel to Libya

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN- Minister of Mines and Metals, Hussein Mahloji, said that concession of the technology for construction of sponge iron factory, exclusively accomplished by Iran's Qaem factory, will be sold to an outstanding Libyan factory.

Mahloji made the statement in a meeting with the Libyan Minister of Housing, Mobarak al-Shamikh recently.

He added that at present Iran is capable of designing, constructing and commissioning of giant industrial factories and can transfer this capability to other countries, especially Islamic countries.

Mahloji stressed that Iran is capable of constructing industrial factories in some industrial fields at lower price than the one normally charged in the world.

The minister noted that construction of an aluminum factory with the initial capacity of 110,000 tons is under construction in Bandar Abbas at the hands of Iranian experts and using domestic construction materials and equipment.

"The capacity of the factory will rise to 330,000 tons in the third phase of the construction effort", the minister added.

He further said that Iran plans to increase its annual production capacity from 120,000 tons of copper to 500,000 tons and from six million tons of steel to 12 million tons in the coming years.

Iran's current production of aluminum amounts to 110,000 tons annually.

In response to the question of Libyan minister of housing on existence of gold in Iran, Mahloji said experts of South African countries and Australia studying some regions in Iran believe that Iran has the biggest gold quarries.

He added that at present one ton of gold is annually produced in the country and that the figure can be increased by 20 tons per year.

Shakh-e Gaav (The Cow's Horn), a Film About Children, Not for Them

Tehran Times Service

Synopsis:

Amir, a teenager from Zanjan, leaves his hometown for Tehran in order to visit his relatives.

He falls asleep in the train and, while asleep, a thief steals his wallet containing all his money consisting of eight ten-thousand rial bills. Amir tries to pursue the thief by following his tracks stealthily to his sister's house in Tehran. Amir catches up with the thief while in the vicinity of his sister's house and, with the help of a few kids in the locality, tries to collar him but fails, and the thief escapes in the direction of a bank.

Policemen manage to arrest the thief in the bank but, to Amir's disappointment, he succeeds in escaping by way of a narrow bathroom window. To make the story short, the thief is finally apprehended by children who find him holed up miserably in some pit and who hand him over to a police station.

News of the thief's apprehension make Amir and all the children jubilant, but the thief's nephews are upset upon witnessing their poor uncle, whom they love so much, being arrested.

Review:

Kiyanosh Ayyari's *Shakh-e Gaav* (The Cow's Horn) is another very liberal interpretation, an Iranian version actually, of the German author Erich Kestner's "Emil and the Detectives". Ayyari, the now famous director of the *Abadanis*, has made the film his window to the beautiful world of children but, unfortunately, has adopted a language totally inappropriate for children, filled with pompous dialogues unlikely to take place in the real world of children and which are not even found in the German original version.

The unfortunate effect of two contrasting realities portrayed hand in hand in the file serve to create a vast schism between children who fill the movie halls and those acting out the roles in the film.

Kestner himself has chosen to adopt a comic language and the theme woven in the entire story is of a social problem presented in a gay, childish way.

Ayyari's film would have been more like the genre he attempts to portray if he had injected more comedy in the film. But Ayyari has always proved to be a serious director whose principles always have an upper hand.

The 96-minute movie afterall, is not that bad in artistic standard. The very simple plot manages to test new methods of directing on Ayyari's part and succeeds in proving his talent and skill as a top-rate director who dares to tread untried paths.

The professional acting of Hassan Rezaie and the teenage actor in his first role and with a sweet Azari accent deserve public acclaim.

The other films directed by Kianoush Ayyari are: *Tanoreh-ye Deev* (The Roaring of the Monster), *Aan Sou-ye Aatash* (The Other Side of Fire), *Shabah-e Kazhdom* (Specter of the Scorpion), *Rouz-e Bashokouh* (The Glorious Day), *Do Nime'-ye Seeb* (The Two Halves of an Apple) and *Abadaniha* (The Abadanis).

Supplication of Kumayl

In the Name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful

O Allah, I ask You by Your Mercy,
Which embraces all things,
by Your Strength,
through which You dominate all things,
toward which all things are humble and
before which all things are lowly;
by Your Invincibility,
through which You overwhelm all things;
by Your Might,
which nothing can resist;
by Your Greatness,
which has filled all things;
by Your Power,
which towers over all things;
by Your Face,
which subsists after annihilation of all things;
by Your Names,
which have filled the foundations of all things;
by Your Knowledge,
which encompasses all things, and
by the Light of Your Face,
through which all things are illumined!

Miedzyrzecki Dies in Warsaw at 74

WARSAW — Polish writer and poet Artur Miedzyrzecki died here Saturday, aged 74, the PAP Agency announced.

Miedzyrzecki was the author of several poetry collections and novels, and was also known for his translation of plays and poetry by many of the European greats: Shakespeare, Moliere, Racine, Rimbaud, Apollinaire. He also translated contemporary European and American poetry.

He was awarded a number of literary prizes, including the Prix de Traduction in Paris in 1978 and the Thornton Wilder Prize in New York in 1986. *(AFP)*

Art and Culture News in Brief

Compiled From Dispatches

MANILA — On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Hazrat Fatima (SA) and the Women's Week two seminars on the "Women and Their Social Responsibilities in Government System" and "Hazrat Zahra and Spirituality" along with were held in Hulu, the Philippines by the cultural attache and Hulu Ulema Society.

TEHRAN — On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Hazrat Fatima Zahra (SA) different ceremonies were held in Istanbul, Turkey; Zagreb, Basnia-Herzegovina; Doha, Qatar; and Haydarabad Sand, Pakistan.

Some prominent characters gave speeches on the life and personality of Hazrat Fatima Zahra (SA) during the said ceremonies.

SRI LANKA — The annual Exhibition on Sri Lankan Handicrafts was inaugurated by the Sri Lankan minister of Rural Industries and head of National Council of Handicrafts. Attendant in the ceremony were Iranian ambassador to Sri Lanka, Iranian cultural attache, a few political and cultural figures, and some foreign diplomats.

Visiting the Iranian pavilion at the fair, Mrs. Ebby Segara, head of the National Handicrafts Council, appreciated Iranian participants and Iranian handicrafts and asked Iranian artists to train Sri Lankan artists.

DUBLIN, Ireland — Hojjatoleslam Mohammad Ali Taskhiri, head of the Culture and Islamic Relations Organization, visited some religious and scientific characters of Dublin.

According to a fax received by the daily, the Hojjatoleslam, who was on his visit to London to take part at the memorial ceremony of the late Dr. Karim Sedighi (former head of the Institute for English Muslims), and the 'Seminar on the Might of Islam' visited some religious personalities and talked about the historical conformities of Islam and Christianity.

Sadigh's Calligraphies and Paintings on Exhibition Today

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN — Barg Art Gallery exhibits today some best works of calligraphy and painting by Abbas Sadigh, the prominent contemporary calligrapher.

Born in 1950 in Rasht, Sadigh is a graduate of history from Tehran University.

He pays much attention to theme as well as form in his works.

He has also had another personal exhibition in Tehran in 1993, and one in Germany in the same year.

Barg Art Gallery, located at No. 12/1, Daman-Afshar Alley, before Mirdamad St., Vali-e Asr Ave., is open to the public until Nov. 15, '96 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. — 15:00 p.m. to 18:00.

Pasternak's "Dr. Zhivago" Letters on Sale

LONDON — Love letters from Russian author Boris Pasternak to the woman who was the inspiration for Lara, the heroine of his Nobel prize-winning novel "*Dr. Zhivago*," are to be auctioned here later this month.

The tragic love affair between Pasternak and Olga Ivinskaia inspired the novelist to write his epic novel set during the Russian revolution and its violent aftermath.

The poems and letters were taken from Ivinskaia in 1960 by the KGB, the former Soviet Union's intelligence service, and she herself was sent to the Gulag twice for her association with Pasternak.

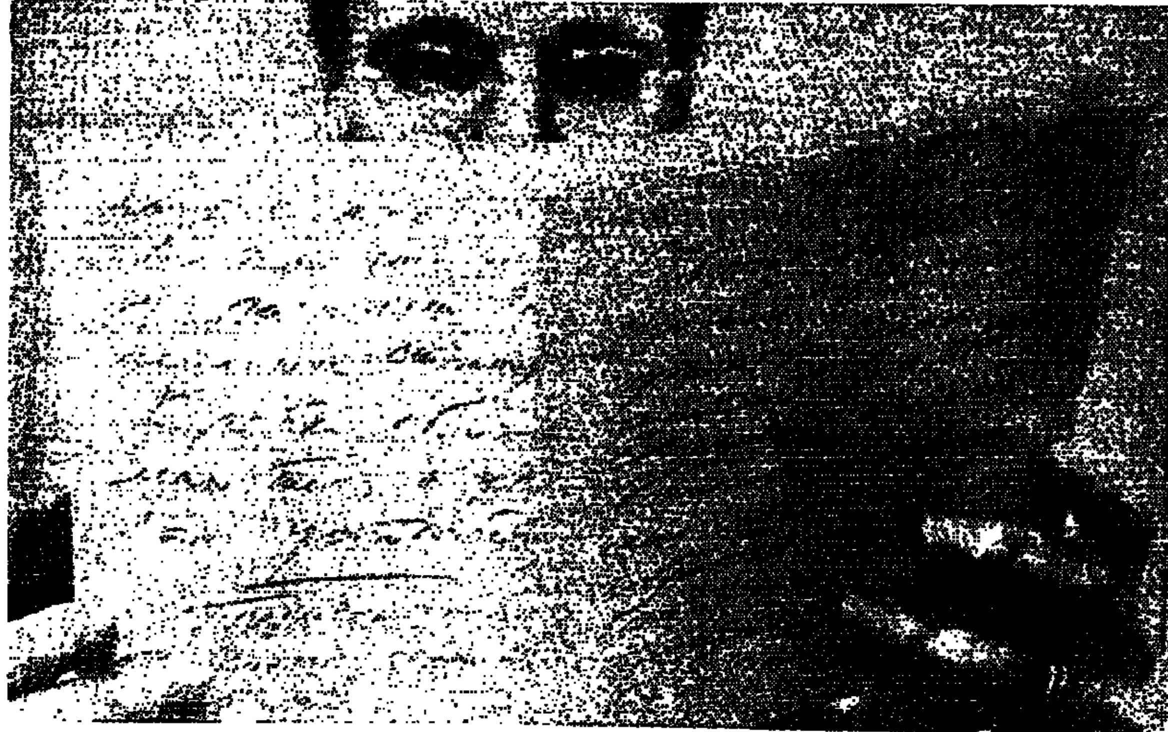
Only a few of the documents were ever returned by the KGB and the most precious papers are now to be sold by her heirs at the auction on November 27.

The manuscripts are expected to fetch 500,000 pounds ($750,000) at the sale at Christie's Auction House.

In the letter, dated three weeks before he died and estimated to fetch 20,000 to 30,000 pounds ($30-45,000), he begs her to not worry about him and refuses to believe his illness is fatal, only painful.

Peter Collingridge, a specialist in books, manuscripts and Russian works of art at Christie's, said the love letters were "full of endearment and encouragement to her. The translations just don't put across the richness of the prose." *(AFP)*





SPORT SUMMARY

Tehran Times Service

SOCCER

ZURICH, Switzerland: Representatives from South Korea and Japan are to meet here on Wednesday at FIFA Headquarters in an attempt to break the deadlock that threatens the 2002 World Cup.

Earlier this year FIFA did a complete about-turn when they named the two countries as co-host for the 2002 Cup.

ZURICH: Fifa may ban goalkeepers handling headed backpasses next year if its referees committee proposal is accepted by the International Football Association board next March.

At present goalkeepers can handle the ball headed back by defenders but must kick clear any pass played back to them by foot.

The law-making board was expected to discuss the proposal, made by the FIFA committee here on Tuesday, at its March meeting.

MARSEILLE, France: Struggling 1993 European Cup winners Olympique Marseille upset their high riding Riviera neighbours Monaco here on Tuesday beating them 3-1 — their first win in six league matches.

Marseille moved upto 12th in the table, albeit 12 points behind leaders Paris Saint Germain, while Monaco could slip six points behind the leaders should they beat Nice on Wednesday.

A Clearly relieved Marseille Coach Bernard Gili said that the win could change their season around.

GUATEMALA: Jorge Garcia Laguardia, the Guatemalan human rights prosecutor, said on Tuesday that the National Football Federation and the selection commission should be held responsible for the stadium tragedy that cost 79 fans their lives on October 16.

The incident occurred at the start of the Guatemala and Costa Rica World Cup qualifier, when a gate gave way releasing a human avalanche that crushed hundreds of spectators against the fence surrounding the playing field.

RUGBY UNION

ROSARIO, Argentina: World champions South Africa started their tour of Argentina with a convincing victory here on Tuesday beating Rosario 45-36 — their first match without inspirational Captain Francois Pienaar who was controversially sacked before the tour.

Though the Argentinian provincial side managed to outscore the South Africans in the second-half by 26 points to 12, the tourists, fielding their reserve team had created their platform for victory in the first-half.

RACING

MELBOURNE, Australia: Cups King Trainer Bart Cummings savoured his Tenth Melbourne Cup when saintly powered home to win Australia's greatest race at flemington racecourse here Tuesday.



Winning horse in the US$1.7 million 1996 Melbourne Cup, Saintly, with part-owner Malaysian businessman Dato Tan Chin Nam (R), owner/trainer Bart Cummings (2nd R) and jockey Darren Beadman (L) displaying their trophys. It was the tenth such victory for Cummings, who was presented with a special replica of the Cup.

(AFP PHOTO)

CASHEL, Ireland: Ireland's Coolmore Stud Group won the race on Tuesday to buy American wonderhorse Cigar for 16 million pounds (24 million dollars) — subject to him passing a veterinary examination.

Coolmore, owned by John Magnier son-in-law of the legendary Irish Trainer Dr Vincent O'brien, will send the six-year-old, who made racing for a rare moment front page news in America, to stand at their American Stud Ashford in Versailles, Kentucky.

The Irish group beat off several Japanese bids, including one of 30million dollars, to acquire the champion racehorse, who built up a world equalling 16 race unbeaten streak that was ended by dare and go in the million dollar Pacific Classic at Del Mar racetrack in August.

TENNIS

STOCKHOLM: Sweden's Stefan Edberg said he was heartbroken after his brilliant career in tennis came to an end on Tuesday night after an emotional 7-6 (7/5), 6-3 defeat against compatriot Nicklas Kulti to exit in the first round of the Stockholm Open.

Edberg, a 30-year old holder of six Grand Slam Titles and a former world No. 1, couldn't control the fiery resolve of his 25-year-old 71st world-ranked opponent.

NEW YORK, NY, United States (November 5): Patrick Ewing of the New York Knicks (R) shoots over Corie Blount of the Los Angeles Lakers (L) at Madison Square Garden in New Yord. This is the only time the two teams meet in New York this season.

(AFP PHOTO)

Iran's Motorbike Championship Contest

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN - According to the report released by the Motorbike & Automobile Federation the second racing competition in the current Iranian Calendar year will be held at 9.30 am on Friday, November 8, 1996 at the Azadi Stadium in Tehran.

Approximately 100 motor riders who have recently qualified from the different provinces as top motorcyclists will participate in the championship event. The riders are from Tehran, Fajr-e-Sepah and Isfahan teams.

Motorbikes have been categorized into four different classes- 80 CC, 125 CC, 250 CC and Super Cross Class.

Two New Zealanders climb Mount Amadablam in the Himalayas

KATMANDU, Nepal — Two doctors from New Zealand successfully have climbed Mount Amadablam in the Himalayas, the tourism ministry said Monday.

John Hamilton, 30, of Christchurch, and Scott Markey, 30 of Wanaka, reached the top the 6,812-meter (22,343-feet) peak on Oct. 29, it said in a statement.

After reaching the summit through the southwest ridge, the two climbers spent an hour there before descending down to camp III, situated at 6,200 meters (20,336 feet), it said.

The seven-member New Zealand Amadablam expedition is led by Edmund Guy Cotter, 44, of Wanaka.

Meanwhile, a five-member Slovenian expedition to the same mountain had to give up its bid on Friday due to bad weather and heavy snow fall, the statement said.

(AP)

Schumacher to Finish Century With Ferrari

MARANELLO, Italy — Double World Champion Michael Schumacher will drive for Ferrari to the end of the century, the Italian Formula One team said Tuesday.

The German has extended his two-year contract to the end of 1999.

Irishman Eddie Irvine, who will continue as no 2 driver in 1997, has an option for the 1998 season.

(AFP)

Sweden's Scott Retains WBU Title in Tight Points Win

PRETORIA — Stylish Swede George Scott retained his WBU lightweight world title here on Tuesday with a close points decision in a classy 12-round bout against tough South African challenger Naas Scheepers.

Two of the judges had the miami-based, liberia-born swede ahead 115-114 and 115-113, while the third had him tied with the local champion at 114.

(AP)

Understanding Kung Fu as Described by a Master

By Ja'far Qasempour Jahangir

Techniques of Kung Fu

What Is Kung Fu?

(Part 13)

INSTRUCTIONS OF GOOFI TEE-OO TO HIS STUDENTS

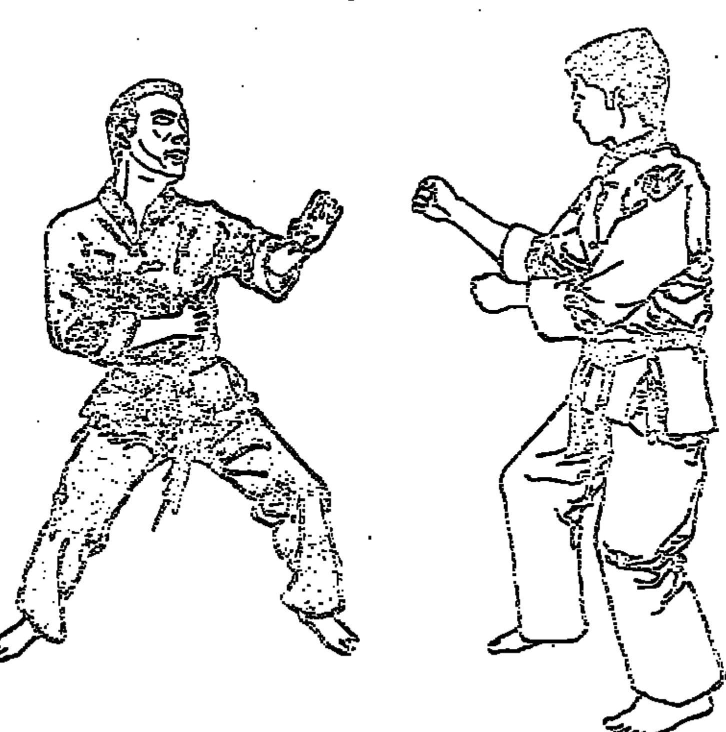


The old teachers clearly stated on top of the mountains that they respectfully invited gods from eight central caves, southern central mountains and said that their students had had boxing exercises to defend China and defeat the foreigners.

Nothing will be left out of Iron Ohan if he is cut with knife and mutilated with axe. The canons cannot wound him and he is not drowned in deep water. Fleming goes on saying that the prayers kneeling toward the southeast, sticking to the crosses, prostrating themselves, bowing, making some mysterious signs with their hands, they expressed these ambiguous statement along with different hints and sentences. After this complicated ceremony of boxing, they fell to the ground in a faint. Later they were dubbed 'The Invulnerable to Bullets, Swords and Lances'.

Nothing but the teachings of Tamu or Chooid Twan could be given to the weak individuals. At least, the old masters' deadly warnings exist no longer.

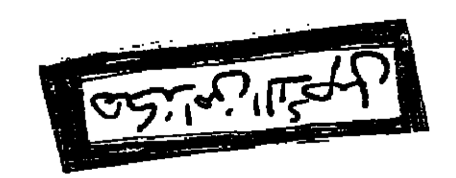
The 9th Commandment: Boxing should not be taught unthinkingly to the pseudo-Buddhists, since it can be applied for annoying the people. So, it should be taught just to the generous and noble persons.



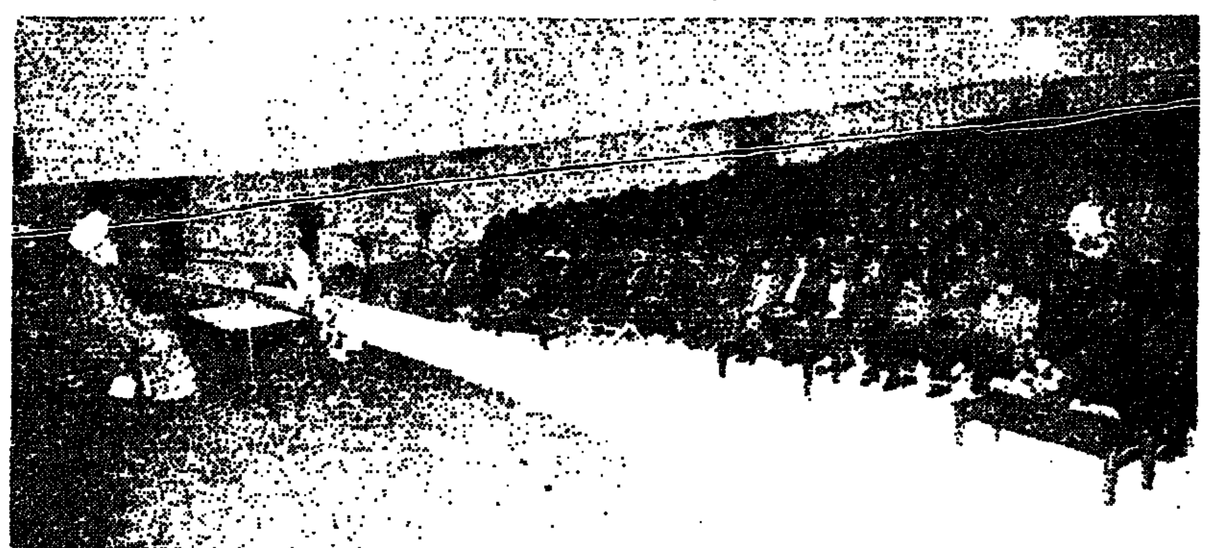
In the old days, the boxers did not consider generosity and nobility so that they attacked and massacred the foreign merchants, sieged their embassies and pillaged their properties.

The landlords helped firstly by the Mongolian government and later through a strong unity among royal troops, started breaking the law and tried to get rid of foreigners and dominate China.

The story of 55-day siege of Peking in June 1900 reached its peak when the Briton, American and French troops set foot on Chinese soil. Thousands of kung fu boxers were killed by the 'Superior Action Forces of Western Army'. The boxers' uprising which was to some extent to the advantage of Chinese terrorists and Berber foreigners was a shameful conduct recorded in the history of kung fu. Anyhow, the invaluable characteristics of a pure kung fu should be differentiated from the dangerous kung fu introduced and developed like a mushroom by Ming's supporters and followers.



U.S. Fears Cultural Aspects of Islamic Revolution



TEHRAN — Majlis speaker Hojjatoleslam Ali Akbar Nateq Nouri said here on Wednesday that America's grudge against Iran is because of the latter's revival of noble Islam.

Speaking at the gathering of the heads of female Basiji (voluntaries) students, the speaker said that the U.S. favors promulgation of a distorted, reactionary and compromising version of Islam and is even ready to invest in this regard.

The head of the legislature said the U.S. is afraid of the cultural aspect of the Islamic Revolution and that is why it is doing its best to strip the revolution of its identity.

(IRNA)

Mussa: Cairo Conference Aims to Bolster Arab Cooperation

CAIRO — Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Mussa stressed Wednesday that next week's regional economic conference would be mainly a forum to bolster cooperation between Arab states rather than with Israel.

"The conference will represent a chance to reinforce common Arab action because this is the essence" of all regional cooperation, Mussa told reporters.

"Whatever is being said (by some parties) on a new order in the Middle East, inter-Arab cooperation remains the essence" of future developments, the foreign minister said.

Cairo will host the third Middle East and North Africa Economic Conference November 12-14, expected to be attended by representatives of more than 80 countries including Israel which is sending a 100-member delegation.

Mussa said "work at the conference will be purely economic."

But he added that "the political atmosphere in the region will influence the conference because there is a feeling of disappointment and anger in the region as a result of the obstacles to the peace process" raised by Israel.

"This atmosphere is a threat to projects for regional cooperation," he said.

Mussa said that a visit Thursday by Israeli Foreign Minister David Levy to Egypt was aimed at discussing "the latest positions of the Israeli government concerning the peace process."

(AFP)

(Contd from Pg. 1)

ARAB...

"I expressed to him my astonishment over the proposal to set up an OSCE-type organization in the Middle East because we must first resolve the key problems in the region and establish peace before moving towards more cooperation in the region," Abdel Meguid said.

"We cannot imagine regional cooperation in the Middle East at a time when Israel continues to occupy Arab territory, " he added.

British Foreign Secretary Malcolm Rifkind in Abu Dhabi on Monday proposed the creation of an organization to resolve conflicts in the Middle East that would be similar to the OSCE.

Such a body would provide a "framework for dialogue" which would not detract from the work of other regional bodies such as the six-nation Persian Gulf Cooperation Council and the Arab League, he said.

Abdel Meguid asked Blatherwick to officially inform Rifkind of the Arab League position.

The British diplomat said: "I explained that this was a British suggestion based on our own experience *in Europe* because it might be useful to think of a wider forum of this kind in which regional issues can be discussed, but of course when a total agreement is reached."

Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Mussa said Tuesday the British proposal was "premature and can't be considered at a time when the peace process is shaky."

(AFP)

(Contd from Pg. 1)

ASIAN...

cant industrial and economic projects in Iran are being worked out and implemented by the Iranian experts and specialized workforce.

He added that the Iranian governmental and non-governmental industrial companies are prepared to participate in the implementation of technical and industrial plans in other countries.

"In view of the prominent economic and geographical condition of the Asian countries, the Islamic Republic of Iran has prepared the ground for the expansion of communications and trade ties between Asia and Europe," President Rafsanjani said, noting that the Asian countries are well capable of supplying each other's needs. He also welcomed the expansion of relations and cooperation between Iran and South Korea.

The South Korean minister, for his part, expressed pleasure with the reactivation of the joint economic commission of Iran and South Korea and holding the commission's fifth session in Tehran, according to the Information Bureau of the President's Office.

Underlining that his country is eager to expand its relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran, Park-Jae-Yoon said that his people and government are well aware that the Islamic Republic of Iran has made great strides in economic and industrial areas during the recent years and that Iran enjoys optimum economic stability.

The minister further pointed to the measures taken by Iran to revive the Silk Road and expand the road network linking Asia to Europe, stressing that South Korea is willing to appropriately use the opportunity created in the region to expand its trade ties with the regional countries.

The South Korean official also called for the continuation of oil purchase from Iran and participation of the two countries' private sectors in the implementation of industrial and economic projects.

(Contd from Pg. 1)

YELTSIN...

At 8:40 a.m. (0540 GMT), Yeltsin met for 15 minutes with Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin and told the premier that he would soon resume a "full working schedule," a Kremlin statement said.

Chernomyrdin "briefly informed the president on the current situation in the country" and delivered get-well messages from Russia and around the world.

Yeltsin's first visitors were his family, who saw him at 11:00 p.m. (2000 GMT) Tuesday, after holding a tense all-day vigil at the Chazov Cardiological Center, where the operation took place.

Echo Moscow radio reported that Yeltsin had asked to be transferred from the Chazov Center to the nearby central clinical hospital, where he has frequently been treated in the past.

The bypass operation on Tuesday lasted seven hours and Yeltsin regained consciousness about five hours after the end of surgery.

Pioneering U.S. Cardiologist Michael Debakey, who oversaw but did not participate in the surgery, said he believed Yeltsin would be able "to return to his office and resume his duties in a perfectly normal fashion."

(AFP)

(Contd from Pg. 1)

CULTURAL...

He said that, currently, on the eve of the 21st century, most people in the world countries have realized that returning to religious beliefs and moral values can save them from their present miserable moral and spiritual condition.

Elaborating on the links between culture and politics, Golzari pointed out that people's familiarity with political matters should be increased. "They should be acquainted with what is going on in the international political arena so as to be able to identify and counteract the enemies' cultural aggression.

The cultural authority further touched on the main activities of the Public Culture Council, saying that the council, in recent years, has taken key measures to preserve Islamic cultural values in the society. Noting that culture is a combination of values, beliefs, and customs, he added that the main function of the Public Culture Council is to identify different aspects of culture and bring them into line with the fundamental Islamic values.

Golzari also said that the council spares no effort to foster the talents of the Iranian youth in cultural fields, preserve their national identity and disseminate the Islamic cultural values. He added that Iran, as an ancient country, has a rich culture and history and that such qualities draw a clear distinction between Iran and other Islamic countries.

He went on to say, "The genuine Islamic culture is seriously threatened by the Western values and the issue of cultural assault is very serious, requiring due attention and more concerted efforts so that such aggression will be checked."

Concerning the responsibilities of the organizations engaged in cultural activities, Golzari said that such organizations should be more vigilant in the face of the cultural plots of the enemies and take the necessary measures to enlighten the people.

"The main problem facing the Public Culture Council is that there is not enough guarantee of implementing the decisions made by the council. Thus, there should be more cooperation and coordination among the culture-related bodies in the country," he stressed.

In conclusion, he called on the cultural and educational institutions and mass media to familiarize people with the activities of the public culture council and, by putting due emphasis on the Islamic cultural values, help to foster and spread those values.

(Contd from Pg. 1)

SEVERAL...

broken by flying objects hurled by demonstrators and police.

There was a heavy police presence in Islamabad where Bhutto remained in virtual confinement at her former official residence one day after her government was dismissed by President Farooq Ahmed Leghari.

Witnesses said police stopped press photographers and cameramen from recording the PPP demonstration near the Parliament building.

The detained PPP workers shouted "Long Live Benazir" as they were taken away in police vans from the scene.

Leghari dissolved the National Assembly and the three-year old Bhutto government, accusing it of corruption, mismanagement and failure to stem lawlessness in the country.

Benazir Bhutto said she was being held "incommunicado" in protective custody Wednesday, one day after she was sacked as Pakistan's prime minister, but restrictions on visitors were apparently later relaxed.

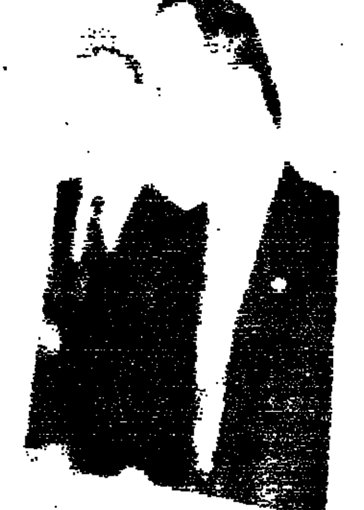
Deposed Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto Wednesday demanded that President Farooq Ahmed Leghari — the man who sacked her — step down.

The news came as the interim government, set up after Bhutto's ouster on Tuesday, pledged that fair and free elections would be held in February.

Saying she would fight a legal battle against her dismissal, Bhutto told her first news conference since losing the premier's job for the second time in six years, that she would file an appeal with the Supreme Court.

An angry and hurt Bhutto said Leghari should relinquish power at least until her appeal is decided in court.

(AFP)



WEATHER

...he I.R. of Iran Meteorological Organization announced today's weather as follows:

...recast for Tehran: Max. temp. 20°C Min. temp. 12°C

...ar to partly cloudy with dust with wind and scattered showers

...rmest Point:
Minab 36°C

...ldest Point:
Boroujen -6°C

Some cities of the world

Cities	Max. °C	Cities	Max. °C
...adh	31	Vienna	14
...nbul	14	Moscow	10
...me	19	Madrid	14
...ens	—	Abu Dhabi	30
...don	14	Karachi	32
...is	14	New Delhi	27
...nkfurt	11	Kuwait	32

...xpansion of ...hran-Colombo ...es Underlined

...RAN — Visiting Sri Lankan ...ster of Ports and Shipping ...ammed Ashraf and Iranian ...merce Minister Yahya Al-e-...q in a meeting here Wednes... exchanged views on ...an-Colombo cooperation.

...l-e-Eshaq, referring to the ... countries' industrial develop...t, said that Iran is ready to help ...anka build ships and oil res...irs at it ports and to supply ... for Sri Lankan ships.

...shraf in reply underlined the ...l for having wide-scale coop...on in setting up factories for ...luction of malamine and china... as well as chandeliers and ...ed on Iran to build oil reser...s and supply fuel for ships in ... Lanka. (IRNA)

...ontd from Pg.5)

...UNGARIAN...

...ice but to resign.

"Continuing with stabiliza...n, controlling inflation, and ...nging about conditions for eco...nic growth, are the three priori... of the government," the min...r said.

Inflation is running at a rate of ...ne 20 percent this year, which ...dgyessy expects to drop by five ...nts annually for the next two or ...ee years.

"Single-digit inflation may be ...ained by 1999 or more like by ...00," he said, which would al...v abandoning the current crawl...g-peg devaluation system.

In 1997, the minister expects an ...ght percent growth in exports ...d a 4-6 percent increase in im...rts, which is seen as a sign of a ...viving economy, Medgyessy ...id. (AP)

(Contd from Pg.6)

...OUTH...

...eds have been totally ignored by ...e Subsidies Agreement.

It is desirable to recognize ...ese needs, as has been done in ...e case of subsidy practices of ...eveloped countries. Developing ...untry subsidies for upgradation ...d diversification of production, ...sorption and adaptation of ...gher technologies and for entry ...to new markets should be made ...on-actionable. (Third World ...etwork Features)

(Contd from Pg. 2)

IRISH...

of Iran's role in finding solution for the current crises and noted that the presence of Ireland in the recent regional conference on Afghanistan as the EU representative, was indicative of the importance Europe attached to the meeting.

Ferris also pointed to the recent "active and effective measures" taken by Iran to help resolve disputes in Africa such as that between Sudan and Uganda, and called for Iran's assistance in dispatch of Irish humanitarian supplies to the African homeless.

The Iranian foreign minister in response called the ties between Iran and Ireland friendly, and underscored the necessity of consolidation of bilateral ties.

Briefing the Irish official on Iranian efforts to find solution to conflicts and to supply humanitarian assistance to the needy, Velayati said that the Islamic Republic of Iran has provided refuge to millions of homeless people over the past decade and a half.

He also noted that continued cooperation and talks between Iran and Europe based on mutual respect and common interests is considered as "constructive".

Ferris also held another meeting with Majlis Speaker Hojjatoleslam Ali Akbar Nateq Nouri on Tuesday.

In the meeting, Nateq Nouri reiterated that the United States had no right to dictate laws on other world governments.

He said that Ireland which is well aware of the facts and realities of the Islamic Republic of Iran, can convey its impressions to other member states of the European Union (EU).

The speaker called American brinkmanship on the international scene "shameful" and said, "Today most of the world's free and independent nations have become aware of the sinister designs and intentions of Washington."

He also expressed hope that the third round of talks of the Joint Commission between Iran and Ireland would start as soon as possible.

Nateq Nouri and Ferris reviewed the ways and means for broadening relations between the two countries. (IRNA)

Iranian Embassy Calls Karabakh Elections as "Unacceptable"

BAKU — In a statement released here Tuesday, the Iranian Embassy termed as "unacceptable" the presidential elections announced for Karabakh in the current situation, drawing attention to its negative impact on the trend of settlement of the Karabakh crisis.

Underlining the necessity of finding a peaceful solution to the crisis between Armenia and Azerbaijan, it said that "respect for the political geography of the region and unacceptability of changes in the internationally recognized borders are part of Iran's foreign policy."

The embassy noted that holding any type of elections in the Karabakh region would not only prevent efforts to resolve the crisis but would further complicate the situation and result in violation of the cease-fire.

The statement said that the Iranian Embassy supports any effort for finding a just solution to the Karabakh problem and calls on the warring factions to exercise self-restraint in order to put an end to the current crisis.

It also voiced readiness of the Islamic Republic of Iran for providing any sort of assistance in this respect.

The Armenian separatists of Karabakh intend to hold the first presidential elections in their self-declared republic on November 24. (IRNA)

Netanyahu Hails Re-Election of "Israel's Friend" Clinton

BAIT-UL-MOQADDAS -- Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Wednesday hailed the re-election of U.S. President Bill Clinton to whom he paid tribute as "a warm friend of Israel and the Jewish people."

"We will continue to cooperate with the United States because all of the peace treaties and accords concluded by Israel in the Middle East were obtained with its help." Netanyahu told a press conference in Bait-ul-Moqaddas.

The prime minister said he was confident the United States would not pressure Israel over the Middle East peace process.

"Mr. Clinton and Secretary of State Warren Christopher have given assurances that they favor dialogue but they want to leave it up to the parties concerned to negotiate the accords that they will have to live with," he said. (AFP)

Gathering on 'Fars' Opens

SHIRAZ, Fars Province -- The third gathering on Fars under the title of 'Fars, Base of Civilization' was inaugurated here Wednesday with a message from President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani.

In his message, the president said that Fars was the birthplace of Iranian civilization and early Islamic governments were founded in that region.

Welcoming holding of similar gatherings, he said it can serve as a prelude to valuable research studies on Iran.

President Rafsanjani added that the region is one of the major tourist attraction centers of the country because of its pleasant climate and numerous historical sites. From economic point of view, he added, the region is also rich in oil, gas and mineral reserves.

More than 400 scholars and Iranologists from Italy, India, Germany, France and Iran are attending the 3-day gathering held in Shiraz and Persepolis.

The seminar is to discuss among other topics the role of Fars and its inhabitants in promotion of Islamic culture, evolution of the national identity of Iran, preservation and upholding of the Farsi (Persian) language, mysticism and metaphysics in Fars. (IRNA)

Ousted Bhutto Accuses President of Kidnapping Her Husband

ISLAMABAD — Deposed Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto accused President Farooq Ahmed Leghari Wednesday of "kidnapping" her husband, warning that unless his whereabouts are revealed she would file a criminal case against Leghari.

Addressing her first press conference the day after Leghari fired her and dissolved her government, the defiant Bhutto said she had already written a letter to the president saying that her husband Asif Ali Zardari "has been kidnapped on your orders since Tuesday morning."

"I say on your orders, because the new interim government had not been sworn in when he was picked up," she added.

She said she would file a criminal case against Leghari unless Zardari's counsel is allowed to meet him by late Wednesday.

"You want to arrest Asif?... arrest him under the law, take him to jail but don't kidnap people," she said.

Bhutto said former Punjab Governor Raja Saroop had told her that her husband had been picked up by "army men." But she learnt from the armed forces that he was not in their custody.

She said she could only surmise that the president had ordered the kidnapping through either the paramilitary rangers or other forces in an "illegal and unmconstitutional manner."

In the midst of her news conference former Interior Minister Naseerullah Babar informed Bhutto that Zardari was in the custody of military intelligence ISI.

The ISI had no legal authority to arrest him, Bhutto said, adding that she feared he was being tortured. (AFP)

Premier: Tirana Explosion a Politically Motivated Attack

TIRANA -- A strong explosion which wrecked the home of the president of Tirana's appeal court early Wednesday and injured four people was a politically motivated attack, Albanian Prime Minister Aleksander Meksi said.

"It is an unprecedented attack for political motives," Meksi said after visiting the scene of the explosion, which wrecked two floors of an apartment block in the center of the Albanian capital.

Prem Martini was at home at the time of the blast but was apparently not hurt. His two children, aged five and seven, were slightly wounded, one of them suffering a broken leg. Two women were also slightly injured.

"This act directed against the Democratic order" is the work of "forces linked to the former secret police, motivated by revenge and a will to destabilize the country," the premier said. (AFP)

(Contd from Pg. 2)

FM...

calls on all sides to the conflict in Karabakh to show self-reservation for solving the crisis."

On the apology offered to sentenced apostate Salman Rushdie by the Danish government, Mohammadi said that Copenhagen's action "will only intensify the hatred of world Muslims whose religious faith has been insulted. To give prize to a person who has insulted the religious beliefs of the Muslim world will be considered as an act supporting Rushdie's insult against the Muslims of the world.

"Rather than having become a literary figure, Salman Rushdie has been turned into a dirty political tool. The countries exploiting that tool are those who antagonize Islam or are politically isolated," he concluded. (IRNA)

(Contd from Pg. 2)

TEHRAN...

the talks in Tehran would pave the way for broadening of cooperation between the two countries.

The Interior Ministry official of Iran said that in spite of plots against Tehran by Washington, Iran's advancement towards national development would continue at a higher pace, and added that DPRK stood very well in its relations with Iran.

The talks between the two countries' officials Tuesday focused round such topics as criminal investigation, criminal records, and possible joint projects between the Law Enforcement University of Iran and the Officers' Academy of DPRK.

(Contd From Pg. 8)

WOMEN...

by the provisions of this law, unless they become wards of a guardian, or somehow achieve financial means.

Note 2 — The boys who continue their studies shall, provided there is credit, be covered by the purport of this law until termination of their studies.

Article 3 — Women and children without supervisors who benefit from pensions of retirement, incapacity and survivors, or who possess financial means are excluded from provisions of this law.

Article 4 — Protections subject matter of this law consist of:

1- Financial protection including provision of means and facilities for self-sufficiency or assistance in cash and in kind, in a periodic or regular manner.

2- Cultural and social protection including rendering of such services as educational (academic), placement, vocational and technical training for employment generating services as well as consultation and social work services to solve the problems and remove difficulties of the persons covered, and paving the ground for marriage and raising of the family.

3- Daily or round-the-clock custody of guardianless children and aged women in welfare units or entrusting guardianship and maintenance of such children and women to qualified persons.

Note: All qualified persons covered by this law who enjoy physical and mental health shall, at the discretion of the social worker concerned, be introduced to follow vocational and placement courses.

Article 5 — The level and duration of monthly payment shall be according to regulations to be proposed by the State Welfare Organization and approved by the Council of Ministries.

Note: Payment of salary in cash and in kind will continue until the cases contained in Article 6 of the law are established.

Article 6 — The salary of the persons covered will be cut off in the following cases:

1- In the case of marriage, reconciliation or becoming dependent on others.

2- Obtaining financial means.

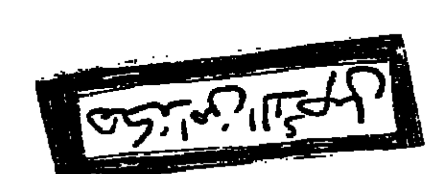
3- Refusal to attend educational (academic) courses or vocational courses without good cause.

4- Refusal to accept the proposed suitable job and occupation.

Note: In case of penal conviction leading to detention and imprisonment, the salary pertaining to the period of conviction will be cut off.

Note of the Single Article of the Law Permitting Opening of a Saving Account for Children

Note: A mother can open a saving account in the name of her minor child, and the right for withdrawal of the said account, until the minor attains the age of eighteen full years, is reserved for mother only.



TEHRAN TIMES

international news

PAGE 16

NOVEMBER 7, 1996

Robbers Kill Hearse Driver, Escape With Corpse

NAIROBI -- Gangsters in western Kenya hijacked a hearse carrying a body to the grave and shot dead the driver before escaping with the corpse and the vehicle, the Kenya Times newspaper reported Wednesday.

The hearse and the coffin containing the body were later found abandoned by the roadside after the incident, which occurred on Monday in Suba district.

(AFP)

Ecudoran With Cocaine in Stomach Nabbed

GENEVA -- A Ecuadoran man who had swallowed 130 pellets of cocaine, about a kilo's worth, was arrested as he arrived at Geneva airport, police said Tuesday.

The 29-year-old arrived from Ecuador via Amsterdam on Sunday.

Another Ecuadoran, charged with receiving the drugs in Switzerland, was detained, police said.

(AFP)

Former Indian PM Gets Bail in Fraud Case, Escapes Jail

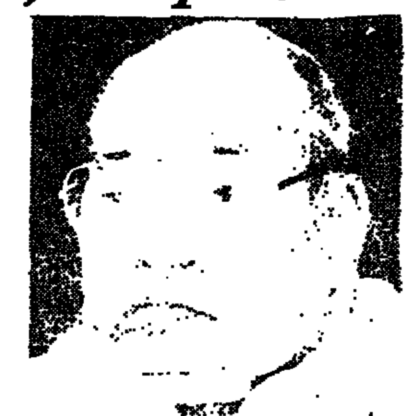
NEW DELHI -- Former Indian Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao Wednesday won a battle to stay out of prison when a special court granted him bail in a 100,000-dollar fraud case.

Rao, 75, looking pensive with his chin on the hands, was visibly relieved when judge Ajit Bharihoke announced the verdict after about two hours of arguments.

Bharihoke told Rao to furnish a personal bond of 100,000 rupees (2,857 dollars) for the bail. Before leaving the chamber in his bullet-proof car, Rao muttered: "I am very happy."

"Justice has been done," added a beaming R.K. Anand, Rao's chief lawyer. "I am happy. Rao is happy."

The ruling lifted the tense atmosphere which had gripped the chamber in the high-security Vigyan Bhawan Conference Complex packed with lawyers, reporters, commandos and officials of Rao's Congress (I) Party.



RAO

Rao stands accused of cheating an Indian expatriate businessman out of 100,000 dollars in 1983, when he was the foreign minister, after promising him business contracts which never materialized.

Rao, who faces two other corruption charges as well, has denied the charge. On Wednesday, he pleaded not guilty.

(AFP)

14 Killed in Kashmir Cross-Fire

JAMMU, India -- Fourteen people, including a child, were killed Wednesday when they were caught in an exchange of fire between Indian and Pakistani troops in the Himalayan state of Kashmir, police said.

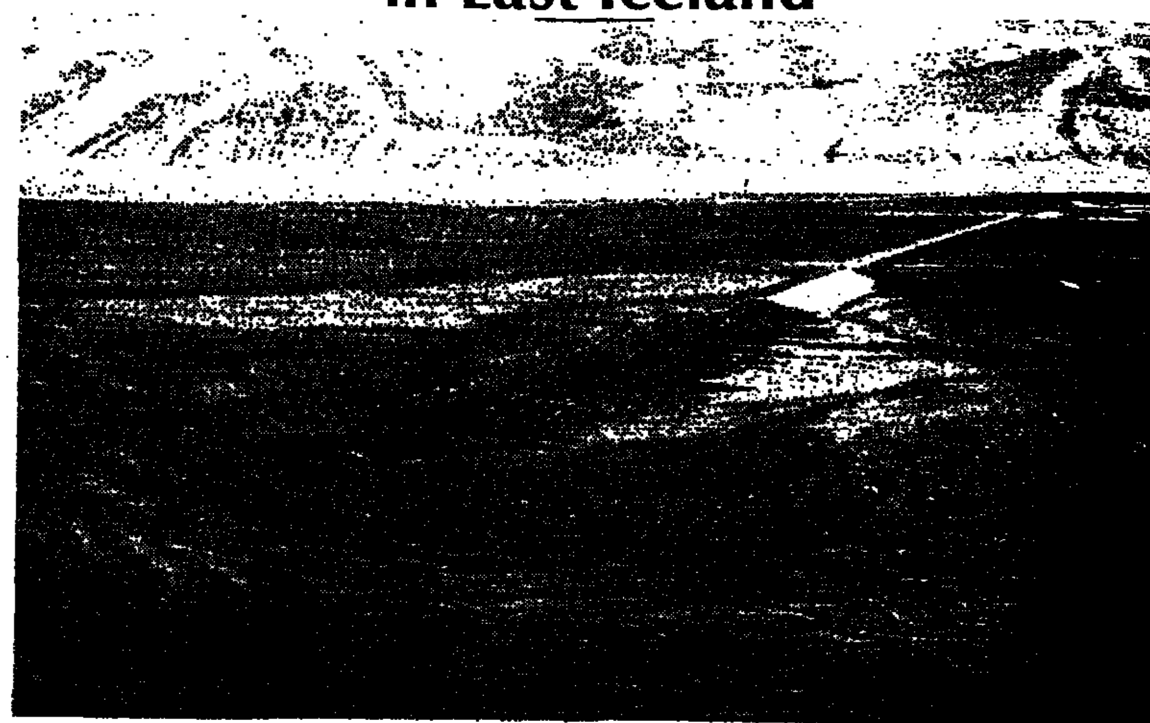
A police spokesman said Pakistani rangers opened "unprovoked fire" at Gulez in the Samba sector, 50 kilometres (30 miles) south of this winter capital, and Indian troops retaliated.

"The 14 killed were trying to enter Indian-administered Kashmir from across the border," the spokesman said, adding that the victims included nine women and a child. Unofficial sources said they were Bangladeshi nationals who had crossed the border looking for work.

India and Pakistan troops frequently trade fire across the mountains and heavily militarized border. India accuses Pakistani troops of providing covering fire to groups of militants trying to sneak across the border.

(AFP)

Giant Glacial Flood Strands Residents in East Iceland



REYKJAVIK, Iceland (Nov. 5): Aerial view of the bridge and road crossing the Skeidarsandur-Sands south of the Vatnajokull glacier on Iceland being washed away by meltwater flood, which is caused by a subglacial volcanic eruption of the glacier October 2. The meltwater burst down the glacier with unprecedented force Tuesday as experts fear a long-expected flood would cause severe environmental damage.

(AFP PHOTO)

REYKJAVIK -- Residents of Fjords in eastern Iceland were cut off from the rest of the country Wednesday, after a giant glacial flood swamped the Onty road linking them to the capital.

The flood of mud and ice was unleashed when the Vatnajockull glacier in southern Iceland began breaking up on Monday night in the wake of subglacial volcanic eruptions which began four weeks ago.

The fracturing, which reached a rate of 43,000 cubic meters (1.5 million cubic feet) per second at its peak on Tuesday night, began to subside by Wednesday morning.

Geologists said the flood would last only around 12 hours.

However civil authorities said damage inflicted on a major road passing through the flooded area, which was ravaged by the flow of mud and ice, could take several months to repair.

Three out of four bridges along the highway, which runs between the glacier and the sea, were destroyed in the flood, which caused total damages worth 2.5 billion Icelandic kronor (35 million dollars) but caused no casualties, the daily *Morgunbladid* said.

Rebuilding can only begin once weather conditions improve, and meanwhile several thousand people who live along the eastern coast will be forced to travel 1,000 kilometres (620 miles) via the north of the country in order to reach Reykjavik in the southwest.

(AFP)

Rwanda: Peace Force Could Go to Zaire Without Government Accord

KIGALI -- President Pasteur Bizimungu of Rwanda on Wednesday stated that a proposed international force to help refugees in neighboring Zaire could intervene without the approval of the Zairean government.

Bizimungu said it was up to the United Nations to call on Zaire to abide by the resolutions" of a summit on Zaire in Nairobi on Tuesday, where eight regional leaders called for the creation of a neutral multinational force and offered troops.

The United Nations had the "right to send a force with or without the agreement of the country concerned", Bizimungu said in a national radio broadcast Wednesday on his return from the Kenyan capital.

Countries of central and eastern Africa called on the UN Security Council to send the force to provide safe passage for relief supplies for some 1.2 million refugees from Rwanda and Burundi in eastern Zaire, which is in the grip of a Tutsi rebel insurrection.

"The force's exclusive role will be to facilitate delivery of humanitarian aid to the refugees and to facilitate the return of volunteers among them to their homeland," Bizimungu said.

The Kinshasa government boycotted the summit on the grounds that foreign "aggressors" were in the country, renewing an allegation that Rwanda, Burundi and Uganda were helping the Tutsis, who have lived in Zaire for several generations.

This charge has been denied, though Kigali has admitted to carrying out a cross-border raid in self-defense last week and Kampala has declared that the Tutsis have every right to fight oppression by the Zairean Army and local authorities.

Bizimungu did not specify whether Rwanda would be ready to provide a rear base for an intervention force, but said that foreign ministers from the countries that took part in the summit would monitor the conflict in Zaire. A team of four ministers would inform the Zairean government about the summit, he added.

The United States and Britain remain hesitant about the proposed force and Kinshasa has yet to give a green light. French Foreign Minister Herve de Charette said Wednesday that such a force should aim to "stop clashes (but) not change the local political situation".

Many Hutus fear their lives will be in danger if they go back to volatile Rwanda and Burundi, where the armed forces are dominated by Tutsis.

(AFP)



BUKAVU, Zaire (November 5): A young boy puts his hand in front of the eyes of his younger brother as they pass in front of a dead body, following fighting between Tutsi rebels and Zairean troops, at the entrance of Bukavu in south Kivu region, in Zaire.

(AFP PHOTO)

Renegade Khmer Rouge Inducted Into Cambodian Army

PAILIN, Cambodia -- More than 2,500 members of a renegade Khmer Rouge faction formally ended their links with the guerrilla movement here Wednesday by joining the Royal Cambodian Armed Forces (RCAF).

A total of 2,507 guerrillas were inducted into the army at a ceremony presided over by co-ministers of defense Tea Banh and Tea Chamrath and renegade faction leader Ieng Sary, the former Khmer Rouge deputy premier.

"Today's ceremony is very important for the entire country," Tea Banh told more than 1,000 of the guerrillas who attended the ceremony while their comrades stood guard against possible attacks from the dwindling number of fighters remaining loyal to the group's hardline central leadership.

"Our dream is complete," he said. "The breakaway faction ... joining the legal government will make everything better and this is in line with our constitution which says that Cambodia is indivisable."

(AFP)

Hashimoto Re-Election Virtually Assured as SDP Backs Premier

TOKYO -- Japan's Social Democratic Party (SDP) agreed Wednesday to back Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto as premier, party officials said, virtually assuring him of re-election as premier.

The SDP move means that when Parliament convenes today for the first time since last month's elections, Hashimoto is due to regain the leadership at the head of a single-party minority government, replacing the outgoing majority coalition that has ruled since mid-1994.

The decision to support Hashimoto was taken by the SDP executive council and later endorsed during a meeting of SDP members of both houses of Parliament, party officials said.

Headed by SDP chairwoman Takako Doi, the executive council also includes secretary general and policy board chairman Shigeru Ito as well as former Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama, who resigned as party chairman in late September.

The SDP won 15 seats in Lower House elections on October 20, enough to tilt the balance in favour of Hashimoto's conservative Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) which won 239 seats, 12 seats short of a majority.

(AFP)

Croatia Joins Council of Europe

STRASBOURG -- Croatia Wednesday became the 40th member of the Council of Europe, the pan-European rights body, amid continued misgivings about its human rights record.

At a ceremony here, Croatian Foreign Minister Mate Granic signed the statutes of the Council of Europe, the European Convention on Human Rights and the Convention on National Minorities.

Then, in front of the Palais de L'Europe, he watched the Croatian flag with its red and white cheque board centrepiece taking its place alphabetically between the flags of Bulgaria and Cyprus.

The ceremony was interrupted by a protest from the international media watchdog reporters sans frontieres (Reporters Without Borders) over a law suit against two journalists of the independent satirical paper, *Feral Tribune*.

Feral Tribune's editor and one of its journalists were recently acquitted on charges of insulting President Franjo Tudjman -- a charge which carries a jail term of between one and three years -- but the state prosecutor is appealing against the acquittal.

The protestors threw down leaflets on the participants at the ceremony which read "*Feral Tribune* Threatened".

(AFP)


TEHRAN TIMES

VOL XVIII, NO 180, Thursday NOVEMBER 7, 1996, ABAN 17, 1375; JAMADIAL-SANI 25, 1417

Special Issue on Women's Week

Fatima Is a Part of My Body

Holy Prophet (S)

On the Occasion of Women's Week





Imam Khomeini's Views on Woman

Tehran Times Service

Continuously throughout history, the group of the deprived *(mustazafan)* were trampled under the bloody boots of bullies of history. Women, throughout this history, have always been a part of this group of the deprived. The system of the oppressors and bullies was the main factor for the chaos (in the society) and the main cause for the difficulties and problems of women and other individuals of the society.

Women throughout history had been faced with great difficulties, problems and calamities. These always weighed heavily upon her shoulders. Throughout history all of the superpowers and arrogant imperialists had tried to keep women down to be used for their own purposes and in the process, they destroyed all of her existing values. They used her as a force to consume useless material and cultural products of the capitalistic system. They put all of their emphasis upon physical values, beauty and sex. They distanced her from high values, faith, *taqwa* (guarding herself against evil) and courage.

By establishing this base, they were able to paralyze the feelings of men who make up half of the society. He became oriented toward sex, beauty and lust and away from the basic political, cultural and social problems of poverty and oppression. In this way the totality of a society came under the domination of exploitation and colonialism.

After the victory of the Islamic Revolution of Iran, the loudspeakers of the foreigners and their worshippers spread such rumors-and continue to spread them -- that the Islamic rule puts all of the achievements of civilization and culture behind itself and returns to 1400 years ago.

Women can counter the effects of these loudspeakers by being socially, politically and culturally active. The views of Imam Khomeini on women, to be presented here, will help to clarify and enlighten whosoever chooses to listen.

Imam Khomeini's Conference in Paris

"The women are a people who give their youth and then are honored (by their martyrdom), a woman who endows her child and then says, "I am honored that I was able to serve Islam this way".

"When the Prophet (S) left this world, he had nothing, in spite of the fact that it (Islam) was second in extent (it had spread its rule throughout the East and it had reached the borders of present-day Europe), and (he was) a ruler who during his life-time only had one animal skin. (It was during those times that) those two, that man and woman, Hadrat Amir (Ali, peace be upon him) and Fatima (peace be upon her) slept upon it. In the daytime, they used it to feed the camels with it. You frighten these people about Islam? You say that if Islamic rule comes, they will keep women in their rooms and prevent them from studying and until the end (of their life) they have to stay in their rooms? Women, at the beginning of Islam, went to war where most of them stayed for the duration, treating the wounded." *(November 8, 1979)*.

"These words are wrong. These things that they say abroad, these are all so that, God forbid, one day some of our young people might fall into the error of thinking that, God forbid, it (Islam) is like thus; God forbid Islam should come and close the doors on women and lock them up so that they can no longer leave their home.

"Islam wants men and women to grow. Islam saved women from what they were in the age of ignorance. Islam has served women to such a point that God knows, it has not served men. You know what women were in the age of ignorance and what they have become with Islam. Now they are making them worse than in the Age of Ignorance. In those days, women were (completely) disregarded (and considered to be unimportant) but now he (the Shah) says, 'women must be fascinating, women must be ...', I don't know, like this or that, words which counteract the dignity of women. He (the Shah) believes that women should be like this -- this kind of a misinterpretation. It should not be this way. Islam wants women to perform all the basic tasks that men perform, not that women become something that pulls the hearts of men and they mix with men, with young people. Islam wants to prevent this. Islam wants to preserve the respect and honor of women. It wants to give personality to women so that she comes out of her present abject state.

"They want to sell women, toss her from one hand to another. Islam opposes this. Does this mean Islam opposes women? Islam has served women. History has no such precedent. Islam pulled women up from the stinking marshes and gave her character. Does this mean Islam opposes women? That is all false propagation." *(November 9, 1979)*.

"Look at a country, where its men and women all at one time are standing, fists clenched, shouting out, 'Strike us down; we want independence; we will not turn away (from our goal); a woman who has four children in the Behisht-i-Zahra cemetery cries out, shouts out and invites people, "Rejoice, they have killed my child, rejoice!" The people began to cry but they rejoiced. This is something unusual that they should weep for this woman. This woman said, "Do not cry. Celebrate." The people did and at the same time, they wept for the calamity which had taken place.

"Women must have the same rights as men. Islam emphasizes equality between men and women. Islam has given both of them the right to decide their fate for themselves. All freedoms (in Islam) are available to them, the right to vote, the right to be chosen, the right to learn something, and also, the right to perform all economic duties.

"Islam took the hand of women and did not hand it over to the men whereas at the time when the Prophet of Islam (peace and the blessings of God be upon him and his descendants) appeared, women were counted as being nothing. Islam gave power to women. Islam placed women face to face with men and women have equality in relation to them. Of course, there are a series of special precepts in Islam which are suitable for them but it does not mean that Islam makes distinctions between men and women.

"Both men and women are free to go to the university, they are free to vote and be voted for."

A reporter asked Imam

(Contd on Pg. 7)





Women Status From Islamic Republic Officials' Points of View

Leader of the Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah Seyed Ali Khamenei:

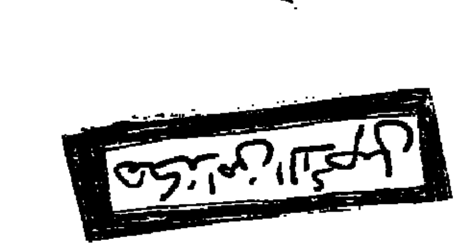
* Hazrat Zahra (SA) was a unique woman whom all should follow.
* In the attainment of spiritual stations, woman can reach the stations of the saints.
* Today our country's Muslim women enjoy profound political insight.
* A woman who is ready to make sacrifice for her faith and revolution stands on the peak of the mount of freedom
* Hazrat Zahra (SA) is the best model for women.
* Complement of Hazrat Zahra (SA) is synonymous to exaltation of faith, piety, science, good manners, ourage, selflessness, Jihad, martyrdom and, in a word, moral virtues.

Founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Imam Khomeini:

* Man ascends 'Mearaj' from the lap of woman.
* Improvement and corruption of a society stems from the chastity or corruption of women in that society.
* A nation whose women are in the forefront of struggle for advancement of Islamic goals will not sustain damage.
* All the human dimensions conceivable for woman and a human being was reflected in Hazrat Fatima (SA).
* Woman is the sole being who can produce individuals to society to lead society, if not societies, to resistance and lofty human values.
* I congradulate the Iranian nation on the blessed Day of Women.
* Woman embodies the materialization of human ideals.
* In Islam women play a sensitive role in construction of the Islamic society.
* If a day is to be declared the day of woman, which day is more loftier and prouder than the auspecious birth day anniversary of Hazrat Fatima (S)?
* No practice is more dignified than motherhood.

President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani:

* The revolutionary spirit of our women is the sign of their success in the years after the victory of the revolution.
* What conduces to restoration of the rights of women exists in Islam.
* It is our great mission today to highlight the real status of Muslim women.
* Progress of Iran's Muslim women guarantees a greater effort and labor.
* In Islamic system woman enjoys a special status.
* Active presence of the country's women in different scientific, social, political, cultural and economic arenas is possible by observing Islamic identity.





Women in Ancient Societies



By Alameh Tabatabaie

Along with the changes that took place within the sphere of the woman's life in the society was a stage in which various religions and civil codes were established among the civilized nations, like the Hammurabi Code in Babylonia and the civil codes devised in ancient Rome, Greece, Egypt, China and Persia. Such codes and laws were somehow similar to the codified laws of today.

Despite the great differences found among those laws and codes, there was something they shared in common and that was the recognition of certain rights of the woman as a weak creature in the human community unable to support herself.

In ancient societies, the woman had to always, and under any condition, depend on the man and follow him in every single step. She had no independence of any kind, nor had she any free will to live the way she wished. The result of her work thus never belonged to her. She was not allowed to earn any wage for what she did. Neither did the woman have any right to bear testimony in regards to judicial matters. The woman, in those societies, was subject to totally abide by any decision which her father made about her. Such a paternal decision could be made on every single issue concerning her life, be it the selection of a husband and or even giving her to another man as a gift. The father could also punish her in any way he wished.

In that era there was no legal relation which connected the woman to men and women in her own family and thus deprived of the rights of inheritance and other family rights. It was only a natural relation which on some rare occasions banned her marriage with her own father, brother or son.

Such marriage among the members of the same family, were of course in practice in ancient Iran, China and around the Himalayas. It was the woman (mother) after whom the children were named and not the man. This (polyandri) is still in practice among some primitive tribes and the children, instead of being recognized by their fathers, are known by their mothers and grandmothers.

In those communities, the woman could never own property of any form unless she was permitted by her guarandian and/or through the dowry she received in a marriage. In those times when the woman lived under strict guardianship of her father or husband, the man had all the rights to punish her the way he wished and could even kill her if he deemed it necessary.

The worst would befall her if she was found to have established illegal relations with a stranger, or when she was going through her menstruation period (during which she was considered to be a wicked and filthy creature and everybody would refrain from talking to her and/or touching her). It was the same when she would give birth to a child, especially to a girl.

If the woman performed any good act, the result and praise always went to her guardian and if she did anything wrong, she had to bear the outcome and the punishment alone.

Of course on very rare occasions and in exceptional cases, she would be given some property and privileges by way of marital love and friendship and heritage. But in general she could never act independently and could never impose her own free will.

By way of example it can be said that in those societies, the women were treated in the same way as an infant (child) was: one who could never decide on her own and had to be under the supervision of a guardian. An infant, though considered as a human being, still will cause many problems if left alone with nobody to depend on. He or she, therefore, has to abide by what the guardians decide until a sufficient amount of wisdom is acquired. Then, in ancient society if a boy, he could make his own decisions.

The position of the woman among those nations could also be defined as the situation of a slave won as part of the booty of war who being a human being is deprived of any free will for the benefit of the victorious society.

Meanwhile it was also a norm in that era that due to her lack of understanding and overwhelming emotions and also because of her sexual position and feelings, the participation of the woman in social affairs and her free will would only result in causing problems and regret in the society.

Thus was the position of woman from the viewpoint of the ancient civilized nations.



Women's rights were almost the same as above from the viewpoints of Christianity and Judaism. Though the Torah and the Bible, accessible to every reader today, called for a more congenial treatment of the woman she is still not supposed to reach the same social status as man. Her social and spiritual value is much less than that of man.

From the viewpoints of other cults (other than the Divine religions) the religious practices of a woman have either no value or a value which is nil compared to that of man.

By the third stage, we mean the position in which the woman is placed in Islam according to the Islamic laws, it is our objective here to clarify this stage.

From Islam's point of view the woman is recognized as a human being who is an inseparable part of the human community and one whose dignity depends upon her own action and will. Before expounding this issue, we would like to mention that the political waves and propaganda in our country have swept away our ability of a proper and rational way of thinking. Under the pretext of following a rightful and proper way of thinking, those waves have pushed our God-given and natural logic into adopting foreign thought patterns blinfoldedly.

One the other hand, the illogical and dictatorial attitude of the church towards any new and right thinking in the Middle Ages along with its tortures and massacres of millions of innocent people as well as its presentation of a distorted image of Islam to preserve its own baseless interests, has smeared the visage of Islam in the eyes of its followers (Christians).

This despotic and oppressive attitude of the church spread up to such an extent that it finally resulted into an indifference of Europeans towards religion and church. Their industrial movement and their independence from the yoke of the church, urged the Europeans to limit it within the walls of Rome (i.e. the Catholic Church). But the impact of the suffocation and oppression imposed upon them by the church was so immense that they now consider the words 'religion' and 'blind-following' as synonymous. Their attitude toward other faiths is also overshadowed by this understanding of religion.

Meanwhile, after attaining power through scientific and industrial advances, the European nations began to extend their political and economic domination over other countries and continents. They successfully convinced other nations of the legitimacy of their scientific and practical superiority and that no way of life other than the European way had any value at all. They brainwashed people into believing that every single thinking individual should crawl unquestionably at the heels of the Europeans denying his own God-given logic and his own culture.

Western propaganda could successfully imbibe on our minds that the words "man" and "world" could only bear meaning in their Western concept and it was only Western "man" and "world" that gave meaning to these concepts. They propagated that a prosperous life could be led only if one followed a European style of life.

According to our intellectuals (who are severely influenced by those propagations), our own religious decrees and social laws are outmoded and cannot cope with the needs of today's world. They believe that we need to adopt an idea which is acceptable to the world, which in their view, is only the Western world.

We also have to regrettably admit that due to the thousand-year-old sectarian disputes and discord among ourselves as well as the selfishness and incompetence of our reulers, we lost our sense of independent thinking and thus changed our own God-given logic and free thinking into some futile and absurd sectarian prejudices.

These factors altogether and in the name of liberalism, shoved us into a state of a sheer imitation of Europeans in every aspect of life.

In this blind imitation, we went so far as even to rely on their views in regard to clarification and interpretation of our own cultural and spiritual concepts while their understanding of Islamic truths is based on the same dreadful mentality of the Medieval Era and/or on odd researches of their so-called orientalists. The same orientalists who write blatant lies in their books such as: "Muhammad married Khadija when he was only seven years old" or "Ali succeeded Umar as the next caliph" and/or "the 11th Shi'ite Imam was buried in Kazimain" etc ....

It is then with such an understanding of Islam and knowledge that they (the European) distort the image of the woman from the Islamic point of view. According to them: The woman in Islam is subject to a total servitude and is deprived of all social rights. She has no free will and can never act independently. The testimony of two women equals that of one man and the amount of heritage that can be allocated to her has to be half the share of a man. The woman in Islam is bound to suffer an imprisonment within her own house and if occasionally and according to an exigency, she leaves the house, she has to cover herself in a black floor length veil or covering (chador) so that her figure cannot be seen. Neither is she allowed to learn how to read and write and so on.

It is through considering this attitude and false presentation and distortion of Islamic facts by the Europeans that independently and without any inlination to any foreign influence, we must refer to our own religious sources and using our own godly bestowed logic and free thinking, we should try to search for the facts in regard to this issue and other matters so that we can discover the relations between Islamic laws and what is right as well as the basis on which they were formulated.

Islamic Working Conditions for Women

Tehran Times Service

As women have as much right as men to play an active role in the economic activities of their society, the following are some factors concerning jobs for women:

Society's Welfare

Precautions should be taken by women as to what consequences a particular job would have for the society. Would it have negative or positive effects? Would it be a healthy improvement to society or will it bring about its moral demise?

Family Welfare

As the family is considered to be the foundation of social life, it must always remain healthy and prosperous. If the work of a woman or a mother damages the health and stability of the family and weakens the loving relations among its members, then the woman should not pre-occupy herself with that work.

Individual Welfare

The amount of work should be considered according to how much is advisable for her. Does it promote her status and lead to her mental growth? Would her working relations create a gap in her relations with other family members? Does the work suit her circumstances or not?

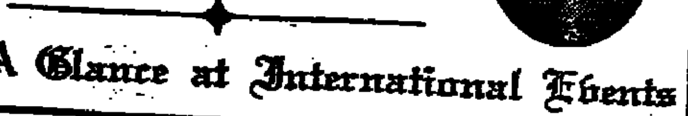
Possibilities and Power

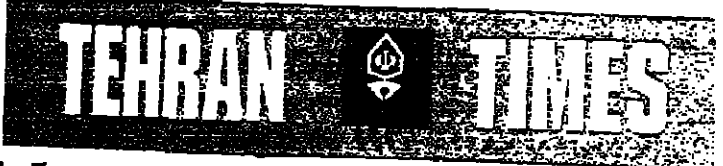
In offering jobs to others, care must be taken as to who is more suitable for a particular job. Who will provide a higher output and who has a higher possibility? Who will have the ability to do this work?

Generally, if the above points are kept in mind, almost any job could be given to a woman. These points are not an obstacle for her work but an aid and a benefit to society. If the meaning of equality is the division of responsibilities and women are expected to do heavy jobs like men that is not equality.

It is essential to remember that the participation of women in political activities is very important. After all, women constitute nearly half of every country's population and can change the destiny of a society for the better or worse, depending on the extent of their political awareness and participation.. An example of this is seen in the heat of the Islamic Revolution in Iran. With their babies in their arms, and young children by their sides, women protested against the tyrannical regime of the Shah. Several mothers and their children were martyred during these incidents. Today, women are considered to be the cornerstone of the Revolution, helping its growth in every way possible.







Tehran Times Weekend Issue
THU., Nov. 7; ABAN 17,1375; JAMADIAL-SANI 25, 1417



The World This Week

World in Highlight

Wednesday, October 30

Taleban Don't Have Any Identity

The Taleban do not have any identity, Imam Seyed Abdullah Bukhari, the prayer leader of the grand Mosque (Jama Masjid) of Delhi said to the *Tehran Times* in his office which is attached to the ancient mosque.

Afghan Conference Ends With Call For National Reconciliation

At the end of 2-day regional conference, the participants from nine regional countries, the UN, OSCE, EU and representatives from the Organization of the Islamic Conference unanimously express concern over the serious crisis in Afghanistan and further recommend a national reconciliation plan.

France Favors Unilateral Action Against U.S. Sanctions

France is always insistent on the respect for international law and favors dialog between oil producers and consumer countries, says the Director of the Oil and gas Department at the French Ministry of industry, Guy Arielle.

Thursday, October 31

Fazlollah: Washington Admits Defeat of Its Hostile Iranian Policy

Senior Lebanese Alim, Allameh Seyed Mohammad Hussein Fazlollah referred to the defeat of Washington's hostile policy towards the Islamic Republic of Iran, adding, *"The U.S. aim behind conditional talks with Iran was an effort to prevent further damage to American interests as a result of absence of ties with the Islamic Republic."*

Rwandan Soldiers Move into Goma, Eastern Zaire



Rwandan soldiers began moving into the Eastern Zairean town of Goma following fierce artillery bullets across the nearby border, witnesses said, according to humanitarian sources here.

Friday, November 1

Iran's Initiatives Serve to Maintain Regional Peace

President of the Republic of Georgia, Edward Shevardnadze told Iran's visiting First Vice President Hassan Habibi in Tbilisi that his government appreciated Iran's initiative to institute multilateral relations and cooperation between regional states within a special entity for that purpose and that Iran's position towards the issue in Abkhazia was also another token of the wise and mature policies of Tehran in the interest of regional peace and security.

Taleban Reject Talks With Opposition



The Taleban militia took advantage of Friday prayers in Kabul mosques to denounce the Afghan alliance formed to combat it, vowing it would never negotiate.

Muslim Oppositions Stage Anti-Bhutto Rally

Several thousand supporters of Pakistan's main opposition Jamaat-i-Islami Party staged a demonstration demanding the dismissal of Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, witnesses said.

Saturday, November 2

Aid Workers and Journalists Flee Embattled Goma

Humanitarian workers and journalists fled Goma under fire as fierce street battles raged in the Zairean border town, which appeared to be largely under the control of advancing Rwanda-backed Tutsi rebels.

Dostam Calls For 'Moderate Islamic Regime" in Kabul

Afghan warlord Abdul Rashid Dostam has called for a 'moderate Islamic regime' in Kabul and said that the anti-Taleban alliance 'accepts no plan before the total withdrawal' of the fundamentalist militia from the capital.

KDP Objects to Key Points of Ankara Accord

The Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP) raised objections to key points of the U.S.-brokered agreement with a rival Kurdish faction but said it would respect a cease-fire in northern Iraq.

Lebanon Uncovers Mossad 'Terrorist' Network

The Lebanese authorities have uncovered a "terrorist" network allegedly recruited by the Israeli secret service Mossad to carry out assassination and bombing attempts in Lebanon, a Beirut daily said.

Sunday, November 3

Rifkind: Jewish Settlers Should Leave Al-Khalil

British Foreign Secretary Malcolm Rifkind stepped full-square into Israel-Palestinian wrangling over the future of Al-Khalil by declaring that the city's militant Jewish settlers should leave.

Burmese Police Blockade Aung San Suu Kyi's House



Burmese police manned roadblocks near Aung San Suu Kyi's residence preventing the National League for Democracy (NLD) leader from addressing expectant crowds that had gathered nearby.

Taleban Threaten to Hang Red Cross Women Employees



Women Afghan employees of the International Committee of the Red Cross stayed away from the relief agency's Kabul compound after Taleban fighters threatened to hang them.

One Million Refugees in Zaire in 'Appalling Conditions'

More than one million people are massed along Lake Kivu in Zaire in appalling conditions, France's honorary consul in Goma told AFP the day after last foreign aid workers fled the area.

Monday, November 4

Taleban Lose Town to Forces Loyal to Rabbani

Troops loyal to the Rabbani's government have wrested part of the eastern Province of Kunar from the Taleban militia the Afghan Islamic Press said.

Mount Merapi in Indonesia Continues to Discharge Lava

The indonesian government has maintained high alert for residents living close to the Merapi Volcano, which has caused alarm with increasing sign of activity in recent week, despite a reduction in the number of quakes recorded. More than 6,300 families could be in danger were it to erupt.

Leghari Dismisses Bhutto's Government

President Farooq Ahmed Leghari today dismissed the government of Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto mainly on charges of corruption and bad governance and announced fresh elections to be held in February.

Yeltsin Transfers Powers to Chernomyrdin

Russian President Boris Yeltsin temporarily transferred all his powers to Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin today, before undergoing a heart bypass operation.

Former Indian PM's Bail Plea Rejected

An indian court today rejected former prime minister P.V. Narasimha Rao's appeal for extending bail in a forgery case, the United News of India (UNI) reported.

Security Council to Hold Consultations on Zaire

UNITED NATIONS. — The UN Security Council will hold consultations today on the massive humanitarian problems in eastern Zaire, but the possible deployment of a peace force did not seem imminent, diplomats said.

Wang Dan Called For Removal of Court Officials At Trial: Report

Chinese dissident Wang Dan demanded the removal of all court officials during his recent trial for plotting to overthrow the government, a US-based human rights organization disclosed.

Iran in Highlight

Wednesday, October 30

Leader: National Will Can Halt Global Arrogance



Leader of the Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah Seyed Ali Khamenei stressed that the fight against global arrogance, of which the U.S. is a clear example, should remain a major theme in our country's policy.

President Calls For Dissemination of Martyrdom-Seeking Culture



President Hojjatoleslam Hashemi Rafsanjani said that the sponsoring of the congress in commemoration of the martyred commanders of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) should serve to disseminate the culture of self-sacrifice.

Martyrdom-seeking culture and promote the pious values of the Sacred Defense.

Thursday, October 31

Iran Introduces Microscopic Plastic Surgery to the World

Plastic surgery and prothesis in Iran enjoys high standards due to the efforts made by Iranian surgeons over the year in treating disabled war veterans. For the first time and being the first country in the world, that Iran carried out microscopic plastic surgery during the eight year Sacred Defense (1980-88), announced Dr. Seyed Jamal Gousheh at the International Congress of Plastic Surgery in Isfahan.

Huge Oil Tanker Joins Iranian Fleet

The 300,000 oil tanker, Iran Najm joined the transportation fleet of the National Iranian Oil Company according to a company official in Bushehr.

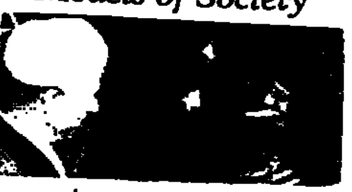
Friday, November 1

Imam Khomeini Called U.S., 'Great Satan' Depicting Its True Nature

Substitute leader of Friday Prayers Ayatollah Jannati said that much of the misfortunes suffered by Muslim nations were the results of the plots by the United States. He said like Satan, the United States too, was pushing the world people here and there to corruption and to prostitution by her different devices.

Saturday, November 2

President's Wife Presents Awards to Four Women as Models of Society



At a separate ceremony celebrating the birth anniversary of Hazrat Fatima (SA), four women were presented with awards by Mrs. Hashemi Rafsanjani, the President's wife as models of the society in the presence of President Hahsemi Rafsanjani.

Sunday, November 3

Nationwide Rallies Held Against Global Arrogance



Thousands of students and people from all walks of life held a massive rally marking the National Day of Campaign against World Arrogance in front of the former U.S. Den of Espionage, the so-called U.S. Embassy.

Monday, November 4

Sudan, Uganda, Malawi FMs Confer With President Rafsanjani

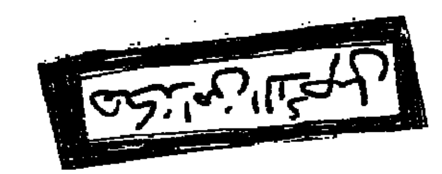


Sudanese, Ugandan and Malawian foreign ministers here attend the Tehran third quadrilateral meeting held separate meetings with President Hojjatoleslam Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani.

Tuesday, November 5

President Receives Model Students

President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, in a meeting with the model students winning the students' scientific and cultural competitions, underlined that training of virtuous people is a great service to the society.



Get What You Want Without Nagging

The faucet dripped for 30 days. The Christmas decorations weren't put away until Easter. Shoes lay wherever their owners had slipped them off. As a self-respecting wife and mother, I reacted in time-honored form: I nagged. And nagged. And nagged some more. Nothing happened. Sick of the sound of my own voice, I wondered, *Isn't there another way to make a family listen?*

Absolutely, the experts declare. "Nagging is quick and easy, so we fool ourselves into thinking it makes a difference — but it doesn't," says educator Jane Nelsen, author of *Positive Discipline*.

Both sexes nag. "Husbands nag just as much as wives, but in different ways," says San Francisco therapist Melody Lowman. Wives nag about things they want their husbands to do: mow the lawn, pick up after themselves. Husbands tend to be after-the-fact naggers. They'll say, "You left my car a mess" or "You spent too much money."

Why do people nag? "Whenever one person has higher standards in a certain area than the other person, nagging comes naturally," observes David Olson, a psychologist at the University of Minnesota. Few people, however, recognize nagging for what it really is: a veiled way of criticizing.

Because it is so negative, nagging "eats away at the heart of relationships," says Lowman. But that has never stopped anyone from doing it.

The good news is that if nagging is common, it's not a fatal flaw. Here are suggestions for making your home a no-nagging zone.

Sick of the sound of your own voice? Here's how to...

Be Direct. When a light bulb in my ten-foot-high kitchen ceiling burned out, I realized it was a job for my six-foot-high kitchen ceiling burned out. I realized it was a job for my six-foot-plus husband. "The light over the kitchen sink burned out," I announced at Sunday dinner.

All week I kept repeating that the light was out; I even tucked a flashlight under my chin while rinsing dishes. Finally I yelled, "Why haven't you replaced the light?"

Replied Bob, my mate of 18 years, "You didn't asked me."

"Men have difficulty hearing what a woman wants if she doesn't make a clear request," Lowman says. "Start off by saying 'I have a problem,' so your spouse knows he isn't going to be criticized." Explain why you're upset (maybe the snow is piled so high you fear it will engulf small children), what you want him to do (shovel the sidewalk) and when (*now* — before anyone gets hurt).

Also be direct with your kids. Instead of stating "I want you to be less messy," spell out what they should do: "Hang up your jacket." Translate "Don't be late" into a precise time.

Ban Blaming. Two San Francisco newlyweds shared a checking account. The husband, a conscientious bookkeeper, noted his every transaction; the wife rarely remembered to record a check. Every time an overdraft notice arrived, he nagged. She pledged to try harder but then forgot. At month's end, as they went over their statement, they were always playing the blame game.

Like many partners trapped in a no-win pattern, this couple had to shift focus from belaboring the problem to finding a solution — which they did. A bank teller suggested they switch to carbon checks that automatically provide a copy. "Very often nagging results from the failure to find different ways of getting a problem solved," Lowman says.

When an issue concerns the entire family, the way to avoid collective blaming is to gather everyone together, identify the behavior that triggers nagging and find a way to deal with it.

Say a mother constantly complains about a messy bathroom. The family might agree always to hang up damp towels or put dirty clothes in the hamper. Or they might take turns doing a daily bathroom cleanup.

Stay Focused. "I'm making a special dinner tonight. Please be home at seven," a New York woman tells her husband as he leaves for the office. At 8 p.m. the husband sails in the door. "You're always late!" she accuses. "You never stop nagging!" he counters.

"Nagging leads to a pattern in the relationship that creates a never-ending negative cycle," says Jo Ann Larsen, a Salt Lake City therapist and the author of *I'm a Day Late and a Dollar Short ...And It's Okay!*

Worse, nagging shifts attention from the original offense and becomes the issue. Those who don't want to show up on time or fix a broken lamp can just complain about being nagged.

Larsen's advice: "Keep focused on the issue. Say 'This isn't about nagging. This isn't about nagging. This is about being late. What can we do about it?" The point is to get a dialog going rather than continuing to alternate monologs.

Negotiate. As a suburban Maryland woman drove into the garage, she groaned yet again. Broken toys and tools lined the workbench; old paint cans and boards were piled against a wall. For weeks she'd nagged her husband to "do something." Finally she changed tack and asked what *he* thought should be done.

"We need to put some things away," he replied.

As usual, his standards for tidiness weren't the same as hers. Realizing that anything would be an improvement, the wife made a suggestion: "Why don't you get rid of the paint and wood, and I'll clear off the workbench?" The couple then set a timetable.

"The nagger assumes what he or she wants is going to happen immediately," says David Olson. "The one nagged is thinking about getting to it in a week or so. They have to talk about realistic expectations."

Since the husband was too tired after work, the couple agreed on Saturday. Within a few hours the garage was cleaned up, making the wife happy, and her husband was pleased because the nagging was over.

"People in happy marriages don't have fewer conflicts than others, but they've learned how to deal with them more effectively," says therapist Melody Lowman.



Realign Priorities. Every morning a St. Louis woman would brush her hair over the bathroom sink, leaving long strands in the basin. "You're going to clog the drainpipe," her husband warned. "Be sure to clean out the sink." Rushing to dress for work and get the kids ready for school, she'd forget. Exasperated, her husband kept nagging her about being sloppy — an accusation she felt was hurtful and unjustified.

The misunderstanding this husband had is a common one. "To assume that you only need to tell people to do something and they'll do it is not the way humans operate," observes Jane Nelsen. "The things we nag our families about are *our* priorities, not theirs. To achieve what we want, we have to motivate people to share our concerns, and nagging is a very poor motivator."

Both sexes nag. Husbands nag just as much as wives, but in different ways.

How *do* you get someone to want to wipe out a sink or put the cap on the toothpaste? "Learn to make requests that invite change rather than demand it," says Larsen. Instead of using a threatening or annoyed tone, say "please" and "thank you," and avoid negative words such as "don't" and "shouldn't."

Another way to get priorities realigned is to spell out consequences — in advance. Let kids know, for instance, that if they don't return their dishes to the kitchen they won't be allowed to take snacks into the family room.

Say Less. Males who don't like being told what to do won't do what they're asked — at least not right away. When this happens, linguist Deborah Tannen notes in *You Just Don't Understand*, the woman who's made the request repeats what she wants "because she's convinced her husband would do what she asks if he only understood that she really wants him to do it." Each time she asks, however, he delays complying because he wants to avoid any perception that he is following orders.

Whenever a real-estate agent in Marin County, California, nagged her teenage son to do chores, he balked. Then she decided to write him notes — itemizing what needed to be done — and post them on the refrigerator. "Almost always when I get home now," says the businesswoman, "he's taken care of everything."

Let It Go. A mother in Utah once recorded everything she said to her teenage daughter during one Saturday: "Are you sleeping all day?" "Your closet is a mess!" and "Stand up straight!" were just three in a litany of 22 complaints.

If you're a parent, this may sound familiar. Either we nag our children about every shortcoming or we zero in on what annoys us most. The questions we *don't* ask are: What difference does the behavior make? Why do we react so strongly? Is the problem theirs — or ours?

"We all view our partners and children as extensions of ourselves," Larsen explains. A father may nag his kids about being late because he prides himself on always being on time. "We think that somehow we've failed when they don't live up to our standards," says Larsen. "It's hard to admit that there are a lot of things about the people we love that we can't control — and shouldn't try to."

What we *should* do is to shift focus from what's wrong in our homes to what's right. "When you express what you like about people's behavior," Larsen points out, "they'll act that way more often."

(Courtesy the Reader's Digest)

Entertaining in Style



Caramel Custard

You will need

For the caramel:
3 oz. granulated sugar
3 tablespoons water
For the custard:
4 eggs
$1\frac{1}{2}$ oz. castor sugar
1 pint milk
few drops vanilla essence

Preparation time
15 minutes

Cooking time
1 hour 15 minutes

Oven setting
335°F; gas mark 3

Put granulated sugar into a heavy pan with water and dissolve without boiling. When it has dissolved bring the syrup to boiling point and boil until it is golden brown. Pour the caramel into dariole moulds and make sure the bases are evenly covered. When cool, butter sides of moulds.

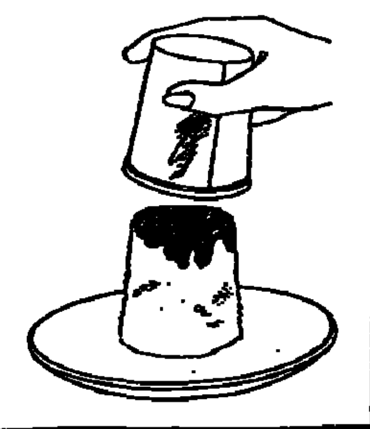
Blend together eggs and castor sugar. Warm milk, then pour it on to egg mixture. Mix well and add a few drops of vanilla essence. Strain the custard into the moulds. Place moulds in a meat tin half filled with hot water. Bake in a very moderate oven for about 1 hour or until a knife inserted in the centers comes out clean.

Leave the custards in a cold place overnight before turning them out on to a flat serving dish (see Quick Tip below).

Serves 4-6.

Quick Tip

When baking the custard do not cook too quickly or there will be bubbles in the mixture. Turn out just before serving, having left it in the refrigerator for at least 12 hours so that the moist custard has fully dissolved the caramel.



Answers to Last Week's DOWN TO DETAIL

1. Droplet above skier's foot
2. Front end of left ski
3. Stripe down ski-suit
4. Hill on left-hand side
5. Eyelet on ski-shoe
6. Crease in suit by right knee.

DOUBLE TAKE

ACROSS

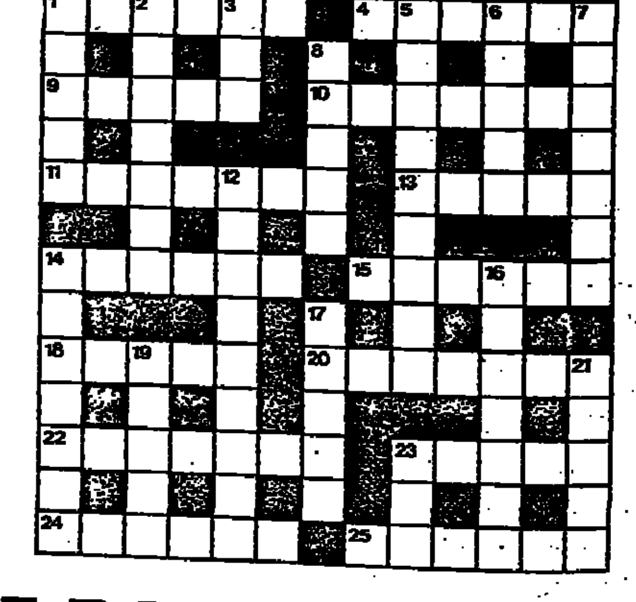
1. Deficiency (6)
4. Imaginary (6)
9. Sane, calm (5)
10. Water-dwelling (7)
11. Folding stand (7)
13. Trio (5)
14. Youthful (6)
15. Ancient (6)
18. Additional (5)
20. Mitigate, soften (7)
22. Using a spade (7)
23. Vacillate (5)
24. Somewhat (6)
25. Flag (6)

DOWN

1. Ant (5)
2. Grant a reprieve (7)
3. Dry (of wine) (3)
5. Impolite, incivil (9)
6. Say, express (5)
7. Book stand (7)
8. Sooner (5)
12. Terse, laconic (9)
14. Stout (7)
16. Despondency (7)
17. Little (5)
19. Loose (5)
21. Reluctant (5)
23. Ocean (3)

Exactly half the clues to this crossword are normal and lead to solutions of similar meaning, but the others all have solutions of *opposite* meaning.

For example, a normal clue "Little" may have "Small" as its solution, but a tricky clue would require the solution "Large".



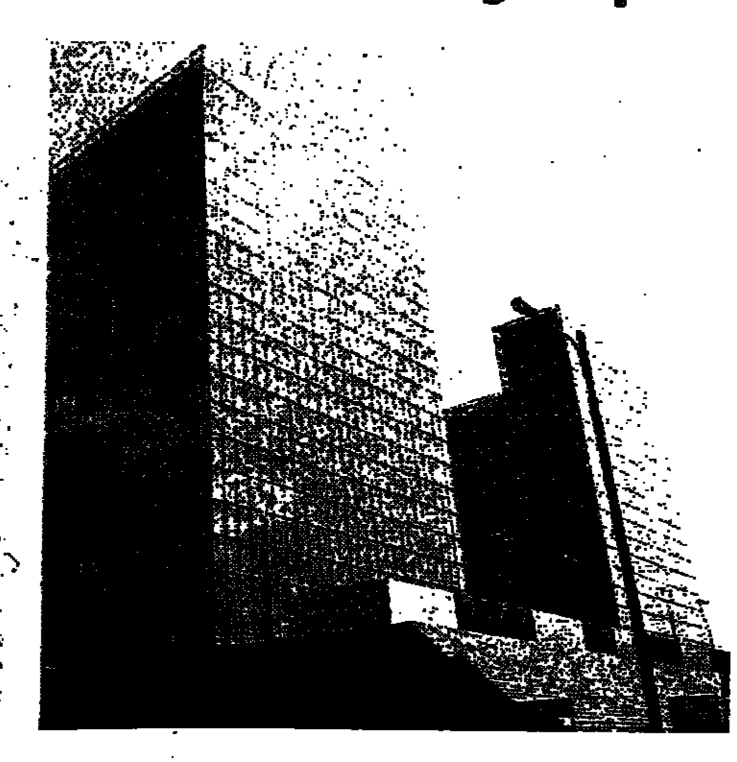
(Solution Next Thursday)

Feature

Facets of Countries

Spotlight: France

A Conquering Spirit



The imposing BNF with its four towers of glass and steel.

It will have taken France's National Library less than 10 years to transform itself. Designed to symbolize opened books, its four towers of glass and steel, some 80m high, today stand on the banks of the Seine, at Tolbiac, to the southeast of Paris. Formally inaugurated last March, the Bibliotheque National de France (BNF), as it is known, will contain all the essential works of France's heritage, that is, some 12 million volumes and 300,000 collections of periodicals stacked over 400km of shelves. The library is scheduled to open to both the general public and researchers alike at the beginning of 1997.

In connection with this year's national celebration of Book Week, October 28-November 3, Tehran Times presents this feature.

It was on July 14, 1988 that the late President Francois Mitterrand announced "the construction and installation of the largest—or one of the largest—and most modern libraries in the world." In 1993, after several years of intellectual, architectural and political discussions and arguments, construction work on the fabric of the building was nearing completion and agreement was finally reached on the organization and the finalities of the old National Library (BN), which had now become the National Library of France (BNF).

Traditionally, the origins of the library are traced back to 1368, when King Charles V set up his library in the Hawkers' Tower of the Louvre Palace. But its real founder was to be Louis XI, at the end of the 15th century, and its innovator, Francois I, who, in 1537, introduced the "*depot legal*" or the copyrighting dues, making it compulsory for printers to submit to the royal library a copy of all works they print. To the great glory of Louis XIV, his minister Colbert became the purveyor of the library and established it in the quarter where it remains to this day, in the Rue de Richelieu, in the very center of Paris. Under the revolution, the king's library became the nation's and was enriched with collections confiscated from princes, emigrants and the clergy: 250,000 books, 14,000 manuscripts and 85,000 prints.

After radical transformations under Napoleon III conducted by the architect Labrouste in the 19th century, the premises at the Rue de Richelieu were to prove incapable, one century later, of coping with the explosion in printed works and public demand: from 97,000 in 1945, the number of students had risen to more than two million, 26 percent of them studying in metropolitan Paris. The library buildings are to be rearranged to accommodate part of the collections from the old BN (manuscripts, prints, photographs, maps and plans, music scores, coins, antique medallions and performance arts) while the books (12 collections) and the audio section are to be housed in the Tolbiac Towers designed by architect Dominique Perrault.

Situated on two different levels, the reading rooms will look out onto one hectare of gardens planted with mature pine, birch and oak from the forest of Normandy, an area that will be out of bounds for the public. The "garden top" (1,650 spaces compared with the 400 spaces available at the old National Library) will be reserved for the general public, who will have access to 400,000 volumes at the time of the opening, and later to some 800,000 volumes. The library will be capable of receiving between 3,000 and 5,000 readers a day, and more than one million per year. At the "garden level," more than 12,000 spaces will be set aside for researchers, who will have the possibility of pre-booking their spaces and be able to remote control the documents they wish to consult. (Courtesy of *Label France*, the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs information magazine, August 1995.)

Travelogue

Beijing's Ming Dynasty Wax Museum

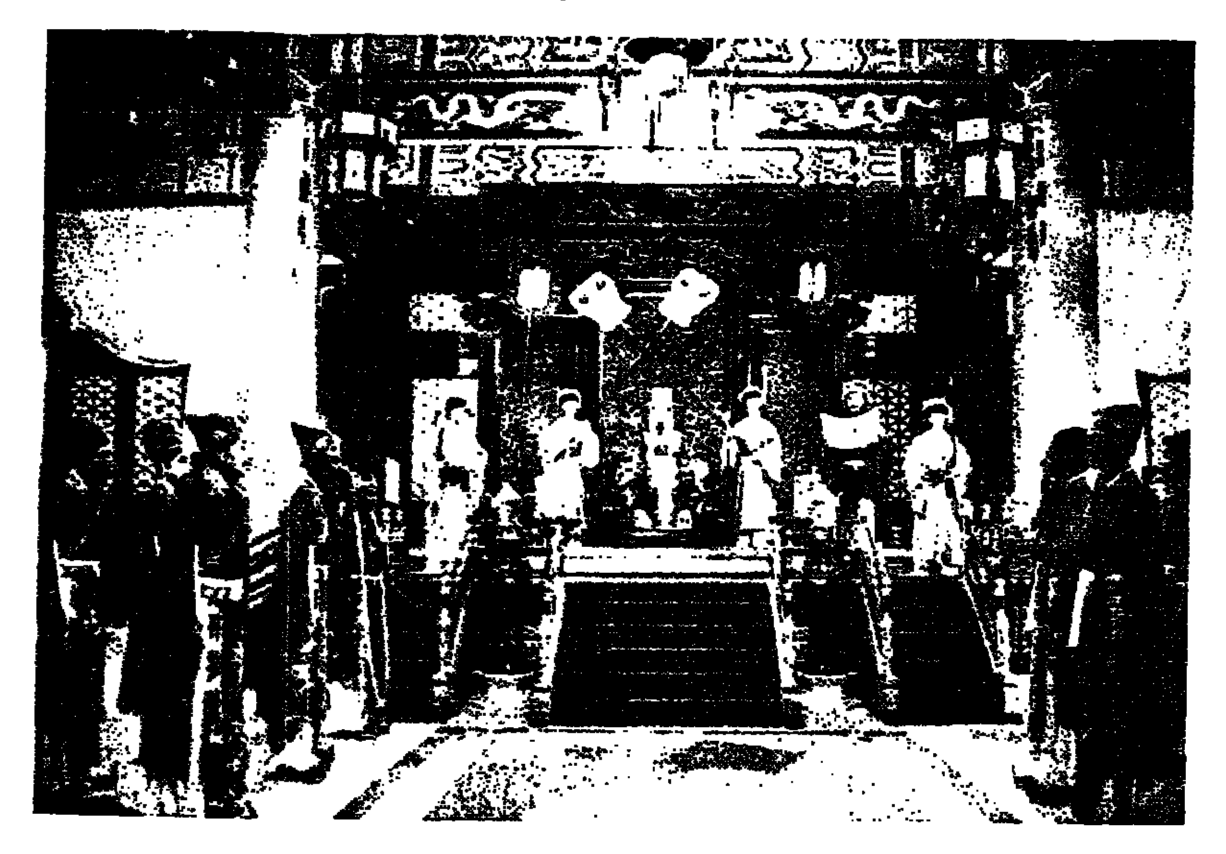
Tehran Times Service

The Ming tombs of the 13 emperorors is a popular place to visit among many travelers to Beijing, but visitors are often rushed through the place, leaving little time to appreciate the imposing mausoleums, rare funeral objects, and the 276 years of history behind it all. Now the stories of the Ming emperors, 16 of them in all, can be seen at the Ming Dynasty Wax Museum.

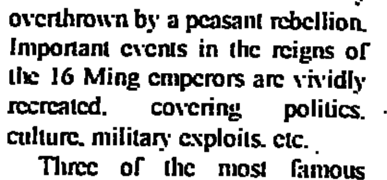
In the 14th century the Yuan Dynasty (1206-1368), founded by Kublai Khan, was on the verge of collapse because of racial and social discrimination in China. In 1368, a peasant insurrection overthrew the Yuan Dynasty, and Zhu Yuanzhang, one of the rebellion's leaders, founded the Ming Dynasty in Nanjing.

Zhu Yuanzhang had originally been a monk, joining a local peasant uprising in 1352 and becoming commander of the armies opposing the Yuan forces in 1356. In 1368, after 12 years of struggle, he exterminated the last of his rivals and founded a new dynasty.

The Ming Dynasty Wax Museum is located at the Xiguan Roundabout in Changping County, near the Ming Tombs and the Badaling Great Wall. Twenty-six scenes featuring 374 lifelike figures retell different stories and anecdotes from the Ming Dynasty, starting with the final triumph of founder Zhu Yuanzhang over the Yuan Dynasty to the death of the last emperor, Zhu Youjian, who took



The coronation of Emperor Zhu Yuanzhang who established the Ming Dynasty in Nanjing.



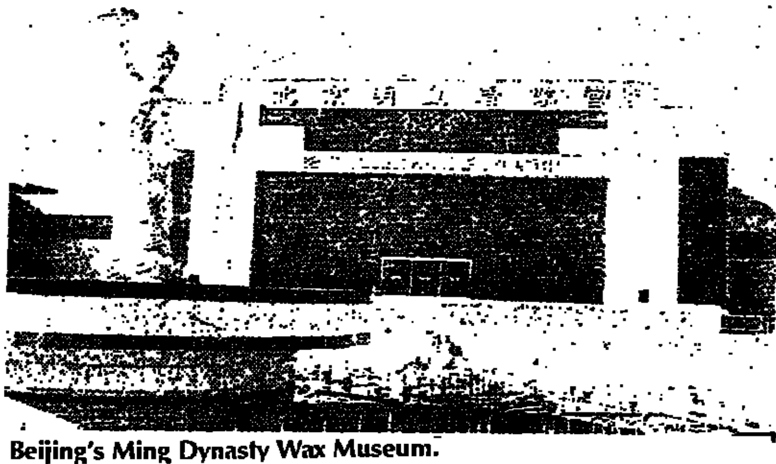
his life on Beijing's Coal Hill when he too was finally overthrown by a peasant rebellion. Important events in the reigns of the 16 Ming emperors are vividly recreated, covering politics, culture, military exploits, etc.

Three of the most famous stories from the Ming Dynasty are the Case of the Stick, the Case of the Red Pills and the Case of Moving Palaces. The Case of the Red Pills came about with the death of Emperor Guangzong (1581-1620), eldest son of Emperor Shenzong. Guangzong ingested some red pills a month after he ascended the throne in 1620 and was dead within hours. Rumors had it he was poisoned by Zheng, who had been married to Guangzong's father and now wished to do away with the new emperor so as to let her own son claim the throne. The case is now on display at the wax museum.

As earlier mentioned, there is a story associated with every one of the 16 Ming emperors. One of them, Zhu Di (1360-1424), successfully plotted with his brother to seize power and later became one of China's most illustrious rulers. He led many expeditions north to expel the Mongol armies from China and went on several different voyages to demonstrate Ming power and promote increased contacts with the outside world.

Zhu Gaozhi (1377-1425), the eldest son of Zhu Di and regarded by many as a benevolent and filial emperor, saw many famine-stricken areas while traveling to attend his father's funeral. Some peasants had only grass seed to eat and Zhu Gaozhi, moved by their ordeal, ordered local officials to open state granaries for famine relief. After succeeding to the throne he worked out a series of policies to improve popular welfare, but then died only a year after ascending to the throne. He was buried in the Xianling section of the Ming Tombs.

Zhu Houzhao (1490-1521), the 11th emperor of the Ming Dynasty, was only 16 years old when he succeeded to the throne. Spoiled as a child, he ruled by caprice and spent most of his reign enjoying various "amusements." At the wax museum one can see him avoiding affairs of state, playing around the palace, traveling incognito and pursuing a life of pleasure.



Beijing's Ming Dynasty Wax Museum.

In the 16th century, the first European missionaries arrived in China and brought cultural exchanges between East and West to new heights. At the museum famous Chinese scientists of the era are shown discussing the stars and planets with European astronomers at the Donbian Gate Observatory in the spring of 1630.

The Ming Dynasty Wax Museum manages to recreate the spirit of China's imperial age using lifelike wax figures. Much of the gold, silver and jade used in the different scenes is authentic as well. Using modern techniques first discovered in the film, audio and electronics industries, history comes alive once again.

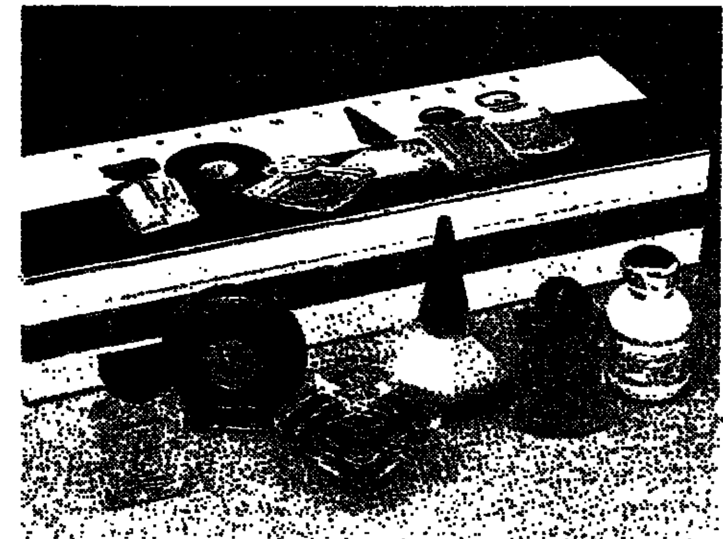
Built at a cost of 200mn yuan, the museum also features the Ming Dynasty Music and Dance Hall, the Mingshan Restaurant, a shopping center, fastfood court and luxury apartments, allowing visitors to relive the Ming Dynasty at their leisure.



Facinating Facts



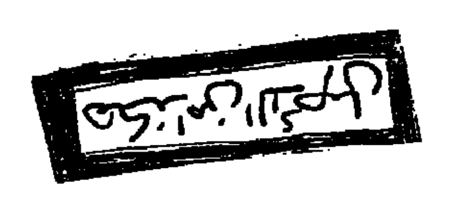
A Museum for Counterfeiting!



Common counterfeit items.

There really is no other place like it in France. The Museum of Counterfeiting boasts a collection of more than 300 original objects from every sector of industry and their copies: perfumes, toys, food products, cutlery, watches and clocks, leather goods, car accessories, domestic appliances, sports gear, and much, much more. The museum has been run since 1951 by the Union of Manufacturers. Its purpose is to make visitors aware of the existence of forgeries and the damage caused to the economy and the consumer by counterfeiting (in terms of quality, security, etc.) and, of course, to inform the public about the legal risks run by those who make forgeries and those who use them.

What is a counterfeit? In legal terms, it is defined as any breach of the right of a brand proprietor; it can take on a variety of forms, from total or partial duplication of the brand to imitation, the affixing or utilization of a registered trademark, or the import or export of goods presented under a counterfeit brand. All products and, in particular, those of the luxury goods industry are subject to counterfeiting, which represents an annual turnover of $100 billion (or 5% of the value of world trade). Of ten brands copied worldwide, seven are French, which amounts to 100,000 jobs lost to Europe, 30,000 of which to France. The price of success...



TODAY IN HISTORY

1981 — Soviet Defense Minister Dmitri Ustinov says USSR will never allow another nation to achieve military superiority.

1987 — Tunisia's President Habib Bourguiba is removed from office by his prime minister who says 84-year-old leader is too senile to rule.

1988 — *Powerful earthquake* just inside China's mountainous southern border kills 600 people.

1989 — Anti-communist demonstrators, striking workers and clashes between police and protestors mar Soviet Union's celebration of its 1917 Bolshevik Revolution.

1990 — Shots are fired near Mikhail Gorbachev during Soviet Union's Revolution Day parade. Irish voters elect radical feminist to presidency.

1991 — Tens of thousands of communists, Czarist, anti-communists and Russian nationalists celebrate 74th anniversary of Russian *revolution in Red Square* and streets of St. Petersburg.

1992 — Alexander Dubcek, the former Czechoslavak leader known as "Prague Spring" dies.

CANDID CAMERA

Photo: Mojtaba Takin



TOMORROW IN HISTORY

1987 — Bomb kills 11 people and injures 55 at memorial service for Britain's war dead by Irish men at Enniskillen, northern Ireland.

1988 — Nearly 9,000 foreign tourists are evacuated from Sri Lanka beach resorts after Sinhalese extremists threaten to attack south coast hotels.

1989 — Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega offers to end arms imports to his country in exchange for demobilization of contra rebels.

1990 — President Bush orders 200,000 more U.S. troops to Iraq. U.S. readies UN resolution that would authorized an attack on Iraq.

1991 — Yugoslav army warns Croatia that it had missiles pointed at targets in that republic.

1992 — A Japanese escort ship collides with a Greenpeace boat tracking a freighter laded with plutonium.

1993 — Chinese airliner hijacked to Taiwan, the sixth of the year, hijacker surrenders on arrival.



Short Story

Some of Us Had Been Threatening Our Friend Colby

By Donald Barthelme

Some of us had been threatening our friend Colby for a long time, because of the way he had been behaving. And now he'd gone too far, so we decided to hang him. Colby argued that just because he had gone too far (he did not deny that he had gone too far) did not *mean that he should be subjected to* hanging. Going too far, he said, was something everybody did sometimes. We didn't pay much attention to this argument. We asked him what sort of music he would like played at the hanging. He said he'd think about it but it would take him a while to decide. I point out that we'd have to know soon, because Howard who is a conductor, would have to hire and rehearse the musicians and he couldn't begin until he knew what the music was going to be. Colby said he'd always been fond of Ives' Fourth Symphony. Howard said that this was a "delaying tactic: and that everybody knew that the Ives was almost impossible to perform and would involve weeks of rehearsal, and that the size of the orchestra and chorus would put us way over the music budget. "Be reasonable," he said to Colby. Colby said he'd try to think of something a little less exacting.

Hugh was worried about the wording of the invitations. What if one of them fell into the hands of the authorities? Hanging Colby was doubtless against the law, and if the authorities learned in advance what the plan was they would very likely come in and try to mess everything up. I said that although hanging Colby was almost certainly against the law, we had a perfect *moral* right to do so because he was *our* friend, *belonged* to us in various important senses, and he had after all gone too far. We agreed that the invitations would be worded in such a way that the person invited could not know for sure what he was being invited to. We decided to refer to the event as "An Event Involving Mr. Colby Williams." A handsome script was selected from a catalogue and we picked a cream-colored paper. Magnus said he'd see to having the invitations printed, and wondered whether we should serve drinks. Colby said he thought drinks would be nice but was worried about the expense. We told him kindly that the expense didn't matter, *that we were after all his dear* friends and if a group of his dear friends couldn't get together and do the thing with a little bit of *eclat*, why, what was the world coming to? Colby asked if he would be able to have drinks, too, before the event. We said, "Certainly."

The next item of business was the gibbet. None of us knew much about gibbet design, but Tomas, who is an architect, said he'd look it up in old books and draw the plans. The important thing, as far as he recollected, was that the trap-door function perfectly. He said that just roughly, counting labor and materials, it shouldn't run us more than four hundred dollars. "Good God" Howard said. He said what was Tomas figuring on, rosewood? No, just a good grade of pine, Tomas said. Victor asked if unpainted pine wouldn't look kind of "raw," and Tomas replied that he thought it could be stained a dark walnut without too much trouble.

I said that although I thought the whole thing ought to be done really well, and all, I also thought four hundred dollars for a gibbet, on top of the expense for the drinks, invitations, musicians and everything, was a bit steep and why didn't we just use a tree — a nice-looking oak, or something? I pointed out that since it was going to be a June hanging the trees would be in glorious leaf and that not only would a tree add a kind of "natural" feeling but it was also strictly traditional, especially in the West. Tomas, who had been sketching gibbets on the backs of envelopes, reminded us that an outdoor hanging always had to contend with the threat of rain. Victor said he liked the idea of doing it outdoors, possibly on the bank of a river, but noted that we would have to hold it some distance from the city, which presented the problem of getting the guests, musicians, etc., to the site and then back to town.

At this point everybody looked at Harry, who runs a car-and-truck-rental business. Harry said he thought he could round up enough limousines to take care of that end but that the drivers would have to be paid. The drivers, he pointed out, wouldn't be friends of Colby's and couldn't be expected to donate their services, any more than the bartender or musicians. He said that he had about ten limousines, which he used mostly for funerals, and that he could probably obtain another dozen by calling around to friends of his in the trade. He said also that if we did it outside, in the open air, we'd better figure on a tent or awning of some kind to cover at least the principals and the orchestra, because if the hanging was being rained on he thought it would look kind of dismal. As between gibbet and tree, he said, he had no particular preferences, and he really thought that the choice ought to be left up to Colby, since it was his *hanging*. Colby said that everybody went too far, sometimes, and weren't we being a little Draconian. Howard said rather sharply that all that had already been discussed, and which did he want, gibbet or tree? Colby asked if he could have a firing squad. No, Howard said, he could not. Howard said a firing *squad would just be an ego trip for* Colby, the blindfold and last-cigarette bit, and that Colby was in enough hot water already without trying to "upstage" everyone with unnecessary theatrics. Colby said

Then the question of the hangman came up. Paul said did we really need a hangman? Because if we used a tree, the noose could be adjusted to the appropriate level and Colby could jump off something — a chair or stool or something. Besides, Paul said, he very much doubted if there were any free-lance hangmen wandering around the country, now that capital punishment has been done away with absolutely, temporarily, and that we'd probably have to fly one in from England or Spain or one of the South American countries, and even if we did that how could we know in advance that the man was a professional, a real hangman, and not just some money-hungry amateur who might bungle the job and shame us all, in front of everybody? We all agreed then that Colby should just jump off something and that a chair was not what he should jump off of, because that would look, we felt, extremely tacky — some old kitchen chair sitting out there under our beautiful tree. Tomas, who is quite modern in outlook and not afraid of innovation, proposed that Colby be standing on a large round rubber ball ten feet in *diameter*. This, he said, would afford a sufficient "drop" and would also roll out of the way if Colby suddenly changed his mind after jumping off. He reminded us that by not using a regular hangman we were placing an awful lot of the responsibility for the success of the affair on Colby himself, and that although he was sure Colby would perform creditably and not disgrace his friends at the last minute, still, men have been known to get a little irresolute at times like that, and the ten-foot-round rubber ball, which could probably be fabricated rather cheaply, would insure a "bang-up" production right down to the wire.

At the mention of "wire," Hank, who had been silent all this time, suddenly spoke up and said he wondered if it wouldn't be better if we used wire instead of rope — more efficient and in the end kinder to Colby, he suggested. Colby began looking a little green, and I didn't blame him, because there is something extremely distasteful in thinking about being hanged with wire instead of rope—it gives you sort of a revulsion, when you think about it. I thought it was really quite unpleasant of Hank to be sitting there talking about wire, just when we had solved the problem of what Colby was going to jump off of so neatly, with Tomas's idea about the rubber ball, so I hastily said that wire was out of the question, because it would injure the tree—cut into the branch it was tied to when Colby's full weight hit it—and that in these days of increased respect for environment, we didn't want that, did we? Colby gave me a grateful look, and the meeting broke up.

Everything went off very smoothly on the day of the event (the music Colby finally picked was standard stuff, Elgar, and it was played very well by Howard and his boys). It didn't rain, the event was well attended, and we didn't run out of Scotch, or anything. The ten-foot rubber ball had been painted a deep green and blended in well with the bucolic setting. The two things I remember best about the whole episode are the grateful look Colby gave me when I said what I said about the wire, and the fact that nobody has ever gone too far again.





End of Discrimination Against Women

Islam, it is said, is a synonym for humanity and the values associated with the welfare and well-being of the human race. It is the only religion and set of laws which gives women their due honor and safeguards their true identity.

Woman is considered as the cornerstone of a family, and a virtuous woman helps build up a virtuous household which in turn contributes to a healthy society. Mothers in Islam, thus have a constructive role to play, and the best model of emulation for them in this regard is the lady Fatima al-Zahra (A.S.), whose birth anniversary is celebrated as "Mother's Day" and "Women's Week" in Islamic Iran.

The holy Prophet's (s) noble daughter was an ideal woman and a paragon of virtue — in every sense of the term — a fact that should inspire Muslim women to greater heights in all spheres of life. Her ideal married life with Amir al-Momineen Ali Ibn Abu Talib (A.S.), provides an excellent lesson of the rights and duties of husband and wife. In Islam, the husband and wife have certain rights upon each other based on a just equation.

"...and they (women) have rights similar to those against them in a just manner..." (2:228)

"Lodge them where you dwell, according to your means, and harass them not so as to straiten life for them. And if they are pregnant then spend for them till they bring forth their burden. Then if they give suckle for you, give them their due payment and enjoin one another among you to do good. Let him who has abundance spend of his abundance, and he whose provision is measured, let him spend of that which Allah has given him..." (65:6-7)

The Holy Qoran revolutionized the status of women and released them from bondage in which they were held by the Arabs of Jahiliya (era of ignorance) and other contemporary societies. The Romans, the Persians, the Indians, the Chinese and all nations of antiquity treated her as mere chattel. The Jews and the Christians held her to be the source of all evil. To add to her misery, Christian law coined such unnatural absurdities like celibacy and monogamy which should explain the present extreme promiscuous reaction of western culture. It has thrown the woman from the frying pan right into the fire.

At a time when women enjoyed civil rights and rose to prominence in medieval Islam, they were burned at stakes and torn to pieces by orders of the Church in European example of the denial of



rights of the fair sex in 19th century Europe could be gauged from the following English couplet:

"The dog, the woman and the walnut tree. The more you beat them the better they be."

This same prejudice lingered on and even today continues to be a blot on the fabric of western culture. Today in the West and other irreligious societies, despite so many charters and proclamations on the rights of women, wife-bashing, exploitation of the women as a commercial commodity and other such abuses, continue to be the order of the day. In fact the sprouting up of 'women liberation movements' in the West are the result of the time immemorial mistreatment of the fair sex in those societies, and instead of doing justice to the women, have un-



fortunately taken a perverse turn by creating a sort of a tension in man-woman relationships.

In a truly Islamic society, the question of women's emancipation never arises, because Islam liberated women the day it liberated man. It treats the two with all respect and dignity, by defining their rights within the harmonious framework of their respective biolgies. It is not mere theory, but the Prophet and his illustrious Ahlul-Bayt (A.S.), have set practical examples in this connection, which has inspired faithful Muslims both men and women in all ages.

Today in some societies, a woman can walk scantily clad, patronize bars and clubs, drink, dance in discos and have illicit relations with anybody she feels like. She can also compete in the business world by using her body to promote commercial commodities. And the irony is, she is called a liberated woman. Laws in such societies breed and promote social ills and disease instead of curbing them, as is evident in the spread of the dreaded AIDS and single-parent families.

In Islam, however, the liberation of women is far superior, noble and dignified than in these so-called permissive societies. The hypocrite West, is quick to condemn Islamic laws which protect women from degradation especially those regarding modesty of dress and purity of purpose. But it should be borne in mind that equality does not mean aping or behaving like men or dancing to their carnal tunes, because that would be an act of inferiority in the face of one's own femininity.

A truly liberated woman always dresses decently and modestly. No woman can be called truly liberated if she is the slave of her wayward conscience. Modesty and chastity form part of the Islamic faith. The hijab itself gives an aura of freedom to the womankind, facilitating their movement in public, and protecting them from provocation and wanton greed of human wolves. Absence of such highly sophisticated values is the principal cause of weak family bonds and social degradation in the West.

"O Prophet! say to your wives and daughters and the women of the believes that they let down upon them their over-garments, that they may be known and thus will not be troubled..." (33:59)

Thus, in an Islamic society, women enjoy a far more dignified status than that of their sisters in the West. In Islam, a woman has the right to participate in public affairs, own property, marry the man of her choice and if the case has gone beyond reconciliation, to divorce her husband. However, it should be noted that Islam considers divorce as the most detestable of sanctioned acts in the sight of Allah.

But the greatest duty of a woman is to lay the foundations of a virtuous society in her role as mother. It is the mother who with patience brings children in the world, and whose love and proper grooming is so essential for society. The mothers have rights upon their children as children have their own rights upon parents.

"And We have commanded man to be kind towards his parents, with trouble did his mother bear him, with trouble did she bring him forth; and the bearing of him and the weaning of him was thirty months..." (46:15)

It was not without reason, that the holy Prophet said: "Paradise lies at the feet of mothers."

The basics of life, whether good or bad, that children learn from their mothers, have a profound bearing on their future course of life. The household of the Prophet (S) offers us the most brilliant examples in this regard. Hazrat Fatima (A.S.), grew up in the lap of the noble Khadijah (A.S.), the "mother of believers", turned out to be the most perfect woman that ever lived. Fatima's lap in turn is the cradle of leaders of the youth of Paradise — Imam Hassan and Imam Hossein (A.S.).

Fatima also passed on many of her virtues to her daughter Zeinab, the heroine of Karabala. The Omayyad tyrants tried to stifle the freedom of Islam, but Zeinab stood supreme as a bulwark. The lady who offered her two sons as sacrifices for the sake of Islam, endured imprisonment and in the courts of Damascus and Kufa, challenged the claim of the authorities of the day to rule. In a classic display of the political and social rights of Islam, she carried on the message of her martyred brother and refused allegiance to Yazid the accused. Islam gave political rights to women more than a millennium before the West.

"O Prophet! if believing women come to you, taking oath of allegiance to you that they will ascribe nothing as partners to Allah, and will neither steal nor commit adultery nor kill their children, nor produce any lie that they have devised between their hands and feet (forgery) nor disobey you in what is right, then accept their allegiance and ask Allah to forgive them. Surely Allah is Forgiving, Merciful." (60:12)

Today, Iran is endeavoring to build a truly Islamic society where every individual will have his or her own rights. The Revolution in Iran has emancipated women from the fetters of western culture put by the former regime. Their situation has dramatically improved and they are active in all spheres of life with honor and dignity and without any discrimination.

Discrimination is surely not part of Islam exception physical terms. In Islam the reward is the same for a believer whether male or female:

"Surely the men who submit and the women who submit (to Allah), and the believing men and the believing women, and the obeying men and the obeying women, and the truthful men and the truthful women, and the patient men and the patient women, and the humble men and the humble women, and the fasting women, and men who guard their private parts and the women who guard, and the men who remember Allah much and the women who remember — Allah has prepared for them forgiveness and a mightily reward." (33:35)

(Contd from Pg. 1)

IMAM...

Khomeini if women must stay at home and if outside the home, she must wear the chador (floor length covering).

Imam Khomeini answered, "I do not see the issue that way. Women must actively participate in the society. All people must have a share in rebuilding the country."

In relation to a question about sports, Imam Khomeini said, "There is nothing to prevent women from participating in sports if they preserve the precepts of the Divine Law. But photographs of them while uncovered should not be printed in the magazines."

Imam Khomeini's Interview With a German Journalist.

Question: In the future system, what will the position of women be? Must they leave the schools and return to the home? Or will it be possible for them to continue their studies?

Answer: These things that you have heard about women or other things these are all part of the false propagation of the Shah and his agents. They (women) are free and they are also free to seek education. They are free in other things just as men are. It was in the defunct regime that neither women nor men were free.

Imam Khomeini's Press Conference With the German newspaper, *The Third World*

Question: Shi'ism from the point of view of western countries, is presented as a conservative thought, and that the Shi'ites strongly believe that women are secluded from social life; also a return to Shi'ite principles, the tradition of which will become the basis for the rule in the same way that they existed in the Constitution (of the monarchial era) which were then illegally done away with. We have also heard that the Shi'ite way of life does not accept the Sunni way, could you please elucidate on these using Shi'ite views as your basis.

Answer: Shi'ism is a revolutionary school of thought and action and it is the continuation of the real Islam brought by the Prophet and because of this, Shi'ite have (throughout history) been the target of ignoble, despotic and colonial attacks.

Not only does Shi'ism not remove women from the social scene, rather, it gives them their rightful place within the society. We accept the progress of the West but we do not accept the West's corruption which they themselves even cry out "No."

Imam Khomeini's Press Conference With a Dutch Newspaper

"Human rights make no distinction between a man and woman because both are human beings and women have the right to determine their own fate."

Imam Khomeini's Press Conference With the Arabic Magazine, *Al-Qumi al-Arabi*

"The Shah's prisons are filled with courageous women. In the demonstrations, our women come to the scenes of confrontation holding their young children, unafraid of tanks and machine guns, political gatherings. Women in various cities of Iran have arisen. Their role is not small. They play a very valuable role in our struggle. The brave women throughout history come alive again. What history do you know about that has had such women? In what country?"

In many of the early interviews of Imam Khomeini in Paris, the issue of the Islamic modest dress was raised by the foreign press. Questions such as: "Will women be free to choose between the modest dress and western clothes?" "Is this type of covering not something that will stop progress and prevent women from being active in society?" "Why should there be a modest dress for women?" were asked.

Imam Khomeini's Interview With Oriana Falucci

"The women who have revolted are women who wore the Islamic covering and continue to do so, not sophisticated women, who walk this way and that, uncovered, drawing a dozen men to follow them." *(October 7, 1979)*

"A doll that you nourish who then goes out onto the streets, did not arise against the Shah and never did anything beneficial; they do not know how to be beneficial (to society)."

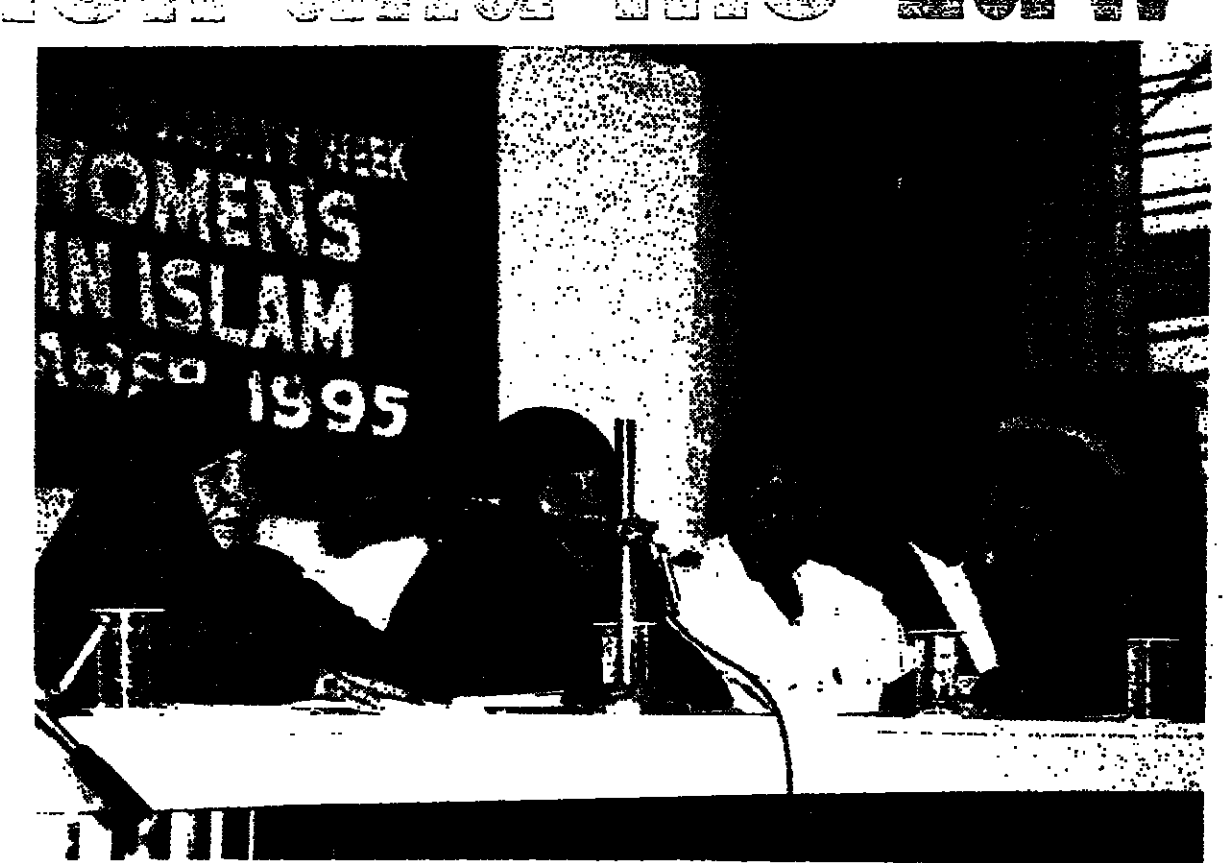
"The Islamic covering is for young and reputable women." *(October 7, 1979)*

"Throughout my long life, I have reached this conclusion that if the modest dress did not exist, women could not work in a bene-

(Contd on Pg. 8)



Women and the Law



The Law on the Implementation Procedure of the Law Pertaining to Women's Part-Time Service (Ratified on 1.12.1983)

Article 1 — In compliance with paragraphs 1 and 2 of the Article 21 of the Constitution, official and permanent women employees of ministries, government institutes and companies, municipalities, armed forces and the institutes where coverage of law requires mentioning of names, can benefit from part-time service, subject to the agreement of the minister or the highest authority of the institute concerned.

Regulations Concerning Labor and Equal Wages

Article 38 of the Labor Law says: Equal wages shall be paid to men and women performing work of equal value in a workplace under the same conditions. Any discrimination in wage determination on the basis of age, gender, race, ethnic origin and political and religious conviction shall be prohibited.

Article 75 of the Labor Law states: Women shall not be assigned to dangerous, arduous or harmful work or to carry, manually and without mechanical means, loads heavier than the authorized maximum. Instructions regarding types of such prohibited work and degrees of prohibition shall be approved by the minister of labor and social affairs on the recommendations of the Supreme Labor Council.

Article 76 of the Labor Law says: Women workers shall be entitled to 90 days of maternity leave of which 45 days shall, as far as possible, be taken after delivery. The said maternity leave entitlement shall be extended by 14 days for women giving birth to twins.

Note 1 — On termination of maternity leave, a woman worker shall return to her former work, the duration of such like being considered part of her effective service, subject to confirmation by the Social Security Organization.

Note 2 — During maternity leave, wages shall be paid in accordance with the provisions of the Social Security Act.

Cultural and Social Regulations

The bill concerning exemption of married women, who are physicians, dentists and pharmacists, for attaining permanent permit to go out of Tehran.

Single Article: All married women, physicians, dentists and pharmacists, whether general or specialist, are exempted from obtaining permanent permit to go out of Tehran.

Note: The purport of the above legal bill covers midwives as well.

The Law Related to the Services of Physicians and Paramedical Personnel, Article One, Amended on 4.8.1991 and Note 7 of Article One (Amended):

All Iranians holding associate and higher degrees who have been, or will be, graduated from higher medical group training centers (governmental and non-governmental) at home or abroad, and whose services are declared to be necessary by the Ministry of Health, Treatment and Medical Training, are required to serve maximum five years after graduation in Iran and in approved regions in such a manner that three-fifth thereof is carried out in Ministry of Health, Treatment and Medical Training or organizations affiliated thereto.

Note 7: Note 7, Article One (amended), ratified 4.8. 1991.

Men general practitioners, covered by above article, are required to render one year of their legal services in health and treatment centers of villages and districts.

The Law for Establishment of the Ministry of Health, Treatment and Medical Training, Article 7 and Its Note

The ministry is entrusted with the task of drawing up of policies and planning of medical training, which should also be confirmed by the High Council of the Cultural Revolution.

Note: The ministry is required to plan in such a way that women specialized in gynecology, obstetrics and medical clinical fields attain self-sufficiency.

The Law for Providing Scientific Board Required by Universities and Institutes of Higher Education. Ratified on May 22, 1986 (Amended on 16.10.1994)

Article 2 — Every year, maximum 30% of graduates in the fields of medicine and veterinary surgery can, prior to military service and other legal services, continue their studies to obtain specialty in one of the fields required by universities and institutes of higher education.

Law on Allocation of Quota to Women in Admission of Assistants in Specialized Medical Fields

Single Article: The Ministry of Health, Treatment and Medical Training is required to allocate at least 25% of the quota for admission of assistants in neurosurgery, radiology, orthopedics, otto-rhino-larysigology, ophthalmology, psychotherapy and if there are enough candidates, 50% of quota in internal general surgery and cardiology, to women physicians who have been accepted in written assistant selection.

The Law Protecting Women and Children Without Supervisor (Breadwinner)

Article 1 — Pursuant to the exalted Islamic teaching intended to maintain the dignity and to safeguard the rights of women and children without supervisor, to indicate the effects of poverty in Islamic society, and in order to implement a part of the Article 21 of the Islamic Republic of Iran Constitution, the unsupervised women and children who are not covered by other protective laws, will enjoy the protection provided by this law.

Article 2: The Persons Covered by This Law Are the Following:

1- Widowed women: The term widow is applied to those women who had entered into a marriage contract (permanent or temporary) but then lost their spouses on account of divorce, the death of spouse, cancelation of the contract, issuance of verdict of presumed death, waiver of enjoyment of wife's company for the remaining period or expiration of period in temporary marriage.

2- Old women without supervisor and breadwinner who cannot earn their own living.

3- Other guardianless women and girls: There are women and girls who have lost their supervisor (breadwinner) either permanently or temporarily on account of the fact that the latter are missing without trace or incapacitated.

4- Guardianless children are those children who, for whatever reason, and either permanently or temporarily, have lost their breadwinners.

Note 1 — The boys covered by Paragraph 4 of this article, until the minimum legal age (as stipulated in the Labor Code), and girls until they get married, shall be covered (Contd on Pg.15)

(Contd from Pg. 7)

IMAM...

ficial and useful way and neither can men. Our laws are valuable laws."

Imam Khomeini's Interview With Miss Elizabeth

Question: Can your excellency please carefully explain this concept as to whether women will be able to freely choose between the Islamic modest dress and western clothes?

Answer: Women are free to choose their activities, fate and, also their covering, by following the precepts. The present experience of the activities against the regime have shown that women more than ever before have found their freedom in the covering which Islam describes.

During the time of the ignorant bully, Reza Khan, the plan was to abolish the Islamic modest dress and to transform that beloved part of the society which should build human beings into a group which will corrupt society.

You sisters who are in your own countries, should know it to be your duty to build and strengthen the country which is in chaos and has been done away with. *(September 22, 1979)*

"Today, women in the Islamic Republic work shoulder to shoulder with men in trying to build themselves and their country. This is the meaning of liberated men and women not that which at the time of the despotic Shah was said. For then freedom was in imprisonment, suffocation and torture... The victory we have is first from women then we have it from men. Our respected women were in the front ranks." *(April 14, 1980).*

"When the farmers see that responsible and respected women have come to help their brothers in the fields, their strength increases several fold." *(April 7, 1980)*

The Right of "Nafaqah"

After tying the knot, each spouse will have a specific role in running the affairs of the family. Distribution of responsibilities of marital life is in accordance with the natural differences of men and women who have different physical and psychological features. The rights and duties of the husband and the wife inside the family circle have been determined by Islam.

In Islam, given man's physical power and some other considerations, the husband has been vested with the duty of managing the family and providing subsistence. It is incumbent on the husband to meet the needs of his wife and children through engaging in a fit occupation and carrying out the required activities. The husband's duty to meet the expenses of the wife give the latter the right of "nafaqah" (the husband's payment of all expenses of his wife and children).

Husband's Duty for Paying Alimony Included in Islam

It is incumbent on the husband to meet the expenses of his wife. The expenses of women include provision of housing, food, clothes, household appliances, and other requirements. In providing them, the wife's dignity and the social conventions should be borne in mind.

The "nafaqah" of the wife might be in the form of providing what she needs or paying her the equal amount. At any rate, the wife will be the owner of the "nafaqah" upon receiving it.

The wife's right for "nafaqah" is prior to the "nafaqah" of other people for whom "nafaqah" is "wajib" (compulsory). As a result, at the time of indigence, the husband should first pay the "nafaqah" of his wife and then that of his children and parents in case they are "wajib ul-nafaqah" (due to poverty or need).

The duty of the husband in paying the "nafaqah" has been included in Islamic law. Even if a man and wife agree that the woman should have no right of "nafaqah", the agreement will not be valid and the woman will still be qualified to receive the "nafaqah". Of course, if the wife wishes, she can abstain from receiving the "nafaqah", but still she has the right to it and can demand it.

2. Guarantee That "Nafaqah" Would Be Paid

The man's abstention from paying the expenses of the wife pertain to two parts: the past in which the "nafaqah" has not been paid and the present and the future in which the "nafaqah" should be paid. The right of the wife in both cases should remain intact. As a result, the guarantee for the payment of the "nafaqah" is studied in two sections:

A) "Nafaqah" of the Past

According to the Islamic jurisprudence, the indigence of the man does not deprive the woman of the right of "nafaqah". Even if the wife is financially well-off and the husband is poor, this right remains intact. If the husband has not paid his wife's "nafaqah" for a specific period, he owes it to her. The wife can refer to the court to ask the husband to pay the said "nafaqah".

According to Shia jurisprudence and the Civil Code of the Islamic Republic of Iran, if the husband has debts to other people, he should primarily pay his debt to his wife (i.e. the "nafaqah" . In case the husband passes away before paying this dept to his wife, the " nafaqah", other debts, will be paid out of his properties unless wife willingly dispenses with it during the life of her husband or after his death.

B) "Nafaqah" of the Future

In case the husband refrains from paying "nafaqah" to his wife, the latter can restore her right through the following ways and means:

a. Taking vengeace: In case the wife has access to the husband's properties, she can take what is equal to her "nafaqah" without his permission.

b. Referring to the court to make the husband pay the "nafaqah": If the husband abstains from paying "nafaqah," and issue a verdict compelling the husband to pay it.

c. Taking divorce proceedings: In cases where the court issues a verdict that the husband should pay the "nafaqah", if he does not pay it, the wife can take divorce proceedings. Following this, the court is authorized to compel the man to divorce her.

The guarantee for the payment of "nafaqah" is not only from the perspective of civil law. Even from the penal perspective, the court can penalize the husband for not paying the "nafaqah" even though he is financially able to do so.

Imam Mohammad Baqer (AS) said the following:

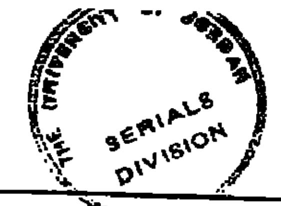
"Whoever has a wife and does not provide her with the required clothes and food should be separated from her by the Imam." (18)

Imam Sadeq (AS) said the following:

"Whoever has the (financial) ability should give to others what Allah has given to him" He stated: "The husband should give the wife such a "nafaqah" that she would be able to run her affairs; otherwise, they should be separated".

As a result, if the husband abstains from paying the expenses of the wife or is unable to pay them, the government can decide on their divorce, of course, provided that the woman demands it.

Consequently, as indicated, the wife is able to utilize this right. In case she wishes, she can dispense with the said right and provide her subsistence through her own property, or by being employed and earning an income, she can live with a husband who is not able to pay her "nafaqah". In this case, i.e. when the wife goes to work to earn an income, she does not have to obey the husband and the latter has no right to oppose her.



Problems in WTO Agreements Should Be Discussed at Ministerial Meetings

The list of problems existing in the WTO agreements which work against the South countries. These problems should be put on the agenda for ministerial meetings, says the writer (Second of a two part article on theWTO and Developing Countries)

Dumping: These provisions have become very complex in the process of the agreement-adopting practices of major developed countries, and very often involve calculation of costs of production. Other expenses are also involved in preparing the case on either side. Authorities and trade officials in developing countries are not well equipped in this regard and are very often services of law firms of developed countries have to be employed and this is a very costly process.

Considering the vast differences in resources, the process of anti-dumping enquiries at both importing end and exporting end becomes very much tilted against the developing countries. The only way out is to have simple procedures, taking care that the process does not become too subjective. It is also necessary to bring the dispute settlement in this area into the folds of the common dispute settlement process.

Agriculture: While there has been significant progress in bringing agriculture within the general discipline of GATT (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade) 1994, and countries maintaining import restraints, domestic support and export subsidy have been obliged to reduce them to some extent, substantial portions of these would continue in the future. But countries that did not have such measures in the past are prohibited from introducing them beyond the de minimis levels.

This is patently unfair in that those maintaining import restraints, domestic support and export subsidy are allowed to continue them, though at reduced levels, but others are prohibited from undertaking such measures in future.

The agreement is based on the assumption that totally free movement of agriculture products across borders is the most ideal condition and that it is desirable for a country to import food from other countries if it is cheap compared to its own cost of production. This may be valid for most developed countries that have enough foreign exchange all of the time. But most developing countries are short of foreign exchange most of the time, and if they depend for food on imports, their populations may have to starve sometimes as they may not have enough foreign exchange to buy food.

Food production has too much social and human compulsions associated with it than can be tackled by pure economic consecrations. Yet the agreement in this sector aims at abolishing all support for food production and all restraints on imports. This will particularly affect developing countries with chronic problems of foreign exchange shortage.

Agriculture is not considered a commercial activity in many developing countries. Farmers take to agriculture sometimes because they have land and have nothing else to do. It will be extremely difficult to harmonize these special characteristics with purely commercial and price considerations.

The problems of net food importing countries have been recognized, but with no concrete mechanisms to tackle this problem.

And in the process of tariffication, several countries, particularly major trading countries, have overvalued the tariff equivalents of their non-tariff barriers, with the result that their base levels of tariffs have been recorded at very high levels.

These problems have to be given serious consideration. Some can be raised during the review process. But it may be preferable to start work with some of them even before that.

Textiles: While the final demise of the special arrangements in year 2005 is an important event in international trade relations, the main problems is over the process of liberalization where several major developed countries claim to have fulfilled their obligations without actually liberalizing the items under restraint— taking shelter under strictly technical interpretations of the agreement.

An immediate review of the implementation is thus needed to decide on a revised schedule of liberalization. Also, recent experience has shown that the TMB has not provide quite effective in checking unreasonable use of traditional safeguard mechanism and in one case the TMB has failed to make a conclusion, even thought it is obliged to give a finding on matters brought before it.

Services: This is just a framework agreement. An obvious imbalance is in the treatment of labor and capital. There is a specific provision for cross-border movement of capital, if it is an essential part of the market access commitment or if a commercial presence is involved. There is no such explicit provision on movement of persons on similar lines.

In respect to developing countries, while the GATS (General Agreement on Trade in Services) makes clear their participation in world trade must be facilitated through appropriate negotiated specific commitments, in actual practice this has not been much respected. In financial services, for example, some major developed countries have insisted on very high levels of commitments from some developing countrie

The process of sector-by-sector negotations is basically flawed, since the interests of countries may not converge in the same sector. Based on the difficulties experienced so far, there is a clear case for rethinking of this issue.

TRIPs (Trade-related Intellectual Property Rights): The basic imbalance lies in the fact that it provides for minimum protection levels for holders of IPRs (Intellectual Property Rights), but there is hardly much concern explieitly shown on the agreement for users of the intellectual property. A balance can be attempted by Countries in their legislation within the limists of the discretion allowed in the agreement.

New Issues: The proposed agreement on investment seeks to ensure free entry of investors in a country without any concern for needs and priorities of the host country.

Some proposals on environment seek to justify trade restrictions without adequate objective examination in the frameworks of GATT 1994.

Proposals on social clauses are thinly veiled attempts to neutralize the advantage of developing countries in respect of their low labor costs— totally forgetting there is no means of neutralizing the advantages of developed countries in the form of cheaper and easier availability of capital, access to high technology and highly developed infrastructure and networks.

Consideration of competition policies may be targeted at clipping the wings of comparatively stronger firms in developing countries so that they don't stand in competition with well established firms of developed countries.

The consideration of corruption may be aimed at attacking the credibility of authorities and institutions of developing countries.

Conclusion: This illustrative list of problems in the existing WTO agreements suggests that the review process in the successive ministerial meetings for a few years can remain busy tackling them and finding out solutions. These and other similar problems should be listed out to form the agenda for ministerial meetings. The recent experience has shown that these issues of existing agreements are more likely to be ignored and further fresh issues are likely to keep the ministerial meetings busy. This trend can be changed only by a concerned action of a group of developing countries that find their interests ignored in the WTO. (Third World Network Features)

Hungarian Finance Minister: Privatization to be Speeded Up

BUDAPEST, Hungary – Finance Minister Peter Medgyessy says privatization of state assets should be accelerated and the process completed by the end of 1997.

At the same time monthly devaluation of the national currency, the forint, in future will not exceed 1.2 percent, the Minister told Hungarian Radio on Tuesday.

"Privatization needs to be accelerated, not put on hold, much less suspended," Medgyessy said at a Monday evening meeting, in reference to opposition parties' repeated calls for a halt in the wake of a scandal involving the state property and holding company.

A consultant was paid over five million dollars in commissions earlier this year and the scandal has caused serious political fallout for the government of socialist Prime Minister Gyula Horn.

"I expect privatization to be concluded by the end of 1997," Medgyessy said, adding that the "Very existence of the state sector runs the risk of corruption."

Over 70 percent of state assets have been privatized.

medgyessy expressed confidence that the government would hold to its present austerity course in 1997, or else he would have no

(Contd on Pg.16)

South Should Correct Imbalances in WTO Agreements

An important aim of developing countries should be to try to correct the imbalances in the WTO agreements and make the system more useful to them, says the writer. He lists the imbalances. (First of a two-part article on the WTO and Developing Countries).

Geneva: One of the main objectives of the proponents of the Uruguay Round was to obtain commitments and concessions from the developing countries. It is no surprise that the final outcome is heavily weighted towards the fulfillment of these objectives.

Consequently, the contents of the agreements have several imbalances with adverse implications for the interest of the developing countries. Hence an important aim of developing countries should be to try and correct these imbalances and make the WTO (World Trade Organization) system more useful to them.

Dispute Settlement: The Dispute Settlement Understanding mechanism of the WTO has been hailed as a major achievement of the Round in terms of the enforcement of rights and obligations. The DSU has enhanced the effectiveness and curtailed the dilatory tactics by prescribing specific time schedules.

This process is ideally suitable for disputes between equally powerful partners, but may prove less effective when a weak trading partner is to get redress against omissions and commissions of a strong trading partner.

Under normal circumstances a member with a grievance may have to wait for nearly two years to get any redress. To wait for two years to get full relief would be a case of justice delayed by any standard. For a weak trading partner, like many developing countries, such delayed relief may sometimes be totally infructuous as their trade and economy would have suffered irreparable damage. Resilience of their industry is comparably low and therefore they may not be able to sustain the adverse impact of wrong actions by powerful trading partners.

Even the delayed relief could be illusory for weak trading partners, since the ultimate means of getting relief is through retaliation. While normally, moral and political pressure would work to persuade an erring member to take corrective action in accordance with the recommendations of the Dispute Settlement Body (according to the panel rulings), in real difficult cases where domestic compulsions of the erring member make implementation difficult or inconvenient, the erring member may drag its feet or totally refuse to take corrective action, running the risk of retaliation.

There will be more willingness to run such a risk where the affected member is not strong or an important trading partner- and developing countries are more likely to be exposed to such risks. And for an affected developing country it may be more risky to take retaliatory action.

The most serious weakness of the dispute settlement system is the severe curtailment of its role in anti-dumping (where) panels have been specifically restrained from pronouncing whether or not such a measure is consistent with obligations under the Agreement on Anti-dumping. The panels can only determine whether the establishment of facts has been unbiased and objective. Once these are established, the evaluation (of the facts) by the authorities will not be challenged, even if the panel comes to a different conclusion. And where the provisions of the agreement admit of more than one interpretation, the panel must declare the measure to be in conformity if it rests upon one of these permissible interpretations. The curtailment of the role of panels in anti-dumping cases is particularly harmful to developing countries.

Also, this provision is to be reviewed after three years to consider whether it should be made more generally applicable, and thus there is a possibility of extending this to other areas- which will render the dispute settlement process totally ineffective and infructuous.

The work of the panels over the past few years has tended to be intensely technical, with panels going into fine points of law, and it is becoming difficult for developing authorities to prepare their cases and make representations. Often they have to employ lawyers and experts from developed countries, which may prove costly.

Recently, in the banana case, the Caribbean countries fond even if they temporarily engage lawyers, they will be excluded from the panel proceedings, on the ground they are permanent government employees.

Market Access: It has been repeatedly said that developed countries have reduced their tariffs significantly during the Uruguay Round and have been credited with reducing their trade-weighted average by 39%. But their trade-weighted average on industrial products has already been reduced from 6.9% to 3.9% (under the Tokyo Round). From this angle, all that the new redactions means is that a product with a unit price of $100 will now cost $103.9 as against $106.3 earlier. This is a more realistic description.

It is not only the industrial countries that have reduced their tariffs, but developing countries have also been made significant reduction. But the average tariffs of developed countries on exports of developing countries are relatively high (such as on textile, clothing and leather goods) and their tariff escalation continues to be high despite commitments on various occasions to reduce or eliminate them.

The justification often given that developing countries have for long enjoyed fruits of the MFN (Most Favored Nation) treatment is only a partial truth. In their development process, developing countries have absorbed vast quantities of products of developed countries and thus supported their industrial production, particularly during periods of recession. In all fairness due credit must be given to these, hence the less attention paid to products of export interest to them is not justified. Instead of putting developing countries on the defensive, the developed countries should recognize this contribution and concentrate on further reducing tariffs on products of export interest to the developing world.

subsidies and dumping rules, particularly by enhancing objectivity and the de minimis clauses, it is clear that in the area of subsidies it is developing countries that have made significant concessions. Earlier, it was recognized they could use subsidies as a tool in their development process. Now, except for a few measures like freight subsidy, they are now generally debarred from using subsidy as a tool of development.

While the new rules on safeguards do not permit targeting a country or a set of countries, and any action has to be on a global basis, in allocation of share of global quotas there is provision for deviation from normal practice. This enabling provision may be used to reduce quotas of developing countries. Special care needs to be taken to ensure that they are not used in a discriminatory manner to the disadvantage of developing countries. Care is needed particularly in initial stages when practices develop into accepted interpretations.

It is desirable to develop clear criteria for conditions and extent of departure from normal practice in allocation of share of global quotas.

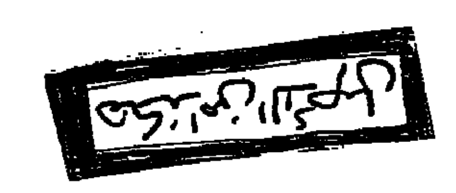
On safeguards, developing countries have the benefit of de minimis provisions, but it is not at all clear how they will operate. If a member takes tariff-type measures, it is not clear how a developing country falling within de minimis provision will be excluded from higher tariffs. And if quantitative restrictions are adopted, it is not clear whether a developing country falling within de minimis provision will be totally excluded from the quotas.

Since developing countries falling within de minimis are totally excluded from safeguard actions, it is desirable to stipulate clearly that neither the higher tariffs nor any limits to exports will apply to these countries.

Subsidies: Commonly practised subsidies of developed countries (such as for R&D, development of backward regions and adoption of environmentally friendly technologies) have all been included in the list of non-actionable subsidies. But subsidies that developing countries generally apply have been generally excluded from this category.

The industrial and trading firms of developing countries generally suffer from natural handicaps— and don't have advantages of large scale operations, availability of technology and finance, entry to international networking. Therefore it is sometimes necessary to provide subsidies so that there is diversification and upgradation of production and entry into new markets. These

(Contd on Pg.15)



هكذا من الأصل

Cambodian Youth Accused of Lying in Evidence Against Australian Envoy

CANBERRA -- A lawyer defending Australian diplomat John Holloway on child sex charges sought here Wednesday to have a Cambodian boy cited for contempt, claiming he had perjured himself in evidence against the envoy.

The boy, flown from Phnom Penh specially for a committal hearing of evidence against the former ambassador to Cambodia, was claimed by Defense Counsel David Buchanan to have given three different accounts of an alleged sexual encounter with Holloway, 53.

Holloway, one of Australia's most senior diplomats, has not formally entered a plea to a charge under recently introduced laws outlawing child sex tourism with having sex with boys under 16 in Phnom Penh in 1994.

The boy, who said he was living at an orphanage at Wat Batum Temple in Phnom Penh in 1994, has told the court Holloway twice paid him U.S.$2 for sex and that he contracted venereal disease from the envoy on the second occasion.

Buchanan on Tuesday read to the boy two versions of his account last year of anal sex he claimed to have had with Holloway.

The boy, unsure of his age but estimated to have been 14 and a half at the time, gave a third version in evidence to Magistrate Michael Somes on Monday.

But he denied lying either in the police interview in Phnom Penh or in court, claiming a blow on the head had left him with memory difficulties.

"I have told the police the truth but ever since this happened there has been trauma and I have been feeling depressed and there has been some physical conflict and I have been hit on the head and I can't remember things clearly and I get confused," the boy told the court through an interpreter.

Buchanan told Somes it was apparent to all that the boy had perjured himself by giving different versions of the events in 1994.

Prosecutor Michael Hastings said variations of evidence did not necessarily amount to perjury.

Buchanan continued cross examining the boy after Somes said he had limited powers to deal with contempt, particularly with a child witness.

However, the magistrate said he could refer the matter to the attorney-general and seek to have the child stay longer in Australia.

The boy, who claimed Holloway was known to as Klong to children at the temple, said he had been picked up one night by Holloway's driver in the gardens of the Wat Batum Temple.

He said they showered together at the ambassador's home where Holloway performed oral sex on him then tried to have anal sex.

Under cross-examination by Buchanan, the boy denied making allegations against Holloway in return for support from aid organizations.

"It's not a lie, because it is the truth. He is very well known to a lot of children because he's all the time looking for the children," the boy said.

Another Cambodian boy, estimated from X-rays to be 13 in 1994, has also been called to give evidence.

The boys were among five who testified in Cambodia last year against British doctor Gavin Scott, who was jailed for seven months for child sexual offences. (AFP)

Finnish President Snubs Ramos Horta



HELSINKI, Finland (November 4): East Timorese Nobel Peace Prize winner Jose Ramos-Horta (L) gestures as he discusses with Finnish Foreign Minister Tarja Halonen (R) during their meeting. Ramos-Horta started a visit to Finland Tuesday.

(AFP PHOTO)

HELSINKI -- The Finnish President Martti Ahtisaari refused Tuesday to receive the joint winner of this year's Nobel Peace Prize Jose Ramos Horta, the presidential palace said.

The palace justified the decision on the ground that no other head of state of a European Union member country has yet received Ramos Horta.

The Nobel prizewinner arrived in Helsinki Monday at the invitation of a pacifist organization.

According to aide Alpo Rusi, Finland has already shown "consideration" to its distinguished guest through meetings with the foreign and cooperation ministers.

However the refusal could be linked to criticisms Ramos Horta has made with regard to countries that export arms to Indonesia, which include Finland.

Ramos Horta has said that Finnish armored vehicles and grenade launchers shipped to Indonesia have been used "against the civilian population," a claim which Helsinki denies. (AFP)

Queen's Representative in Quebec Resigns

MONTREAL -- Queen Elizabeth II's representative in Quebec resigned Tuesday after he acknowledged he once wore the Nazi swastika and took part in an anti-Jewish protest.

Lieutenant Governor Jean-Louis Roux presented his resignation in a brief letter to Prime Minister Jean Chretien without explaining his decision to step down.

But the move came a day after news surfaced that in a new interview in *L'Actualite*, a French-language weekly published here, Roux, 73, said he had worn a Nazi cross while he was a University of Montreal medical student.

"Brilliant, eh?" the crown provincial representative, who took up the post in September, was quoted as saying.

L'Actualite reported that Roux also took part in 1942 in an anti-conscription protest in Montreal, in which the windows of foreign-sounding and Jewish-owned businesses were smashed.

Roux also said he was a member of a "secret society" that aimed to prepare a separatist coup.

He said that in 1946, he discovered in France the "devastation of war caused by nationalist ambitions. Immediately, nationalism became detestable in my eyes," he told the magazine.

Several Jewish organizations voiced shock and demanded an explanation.

In a statement he released late Monday, Roux justified his moves saying they grew out of the wartime atmosphere and ignorance he said most people had about "Nazi repression."

He also cited his subsequent opposition to Nazism and fascism.

Pro-separatist Quebeckers had opposed Roux's appointment as the queen's provincial representative due to his strong support for Quebec remaining part of a federal Canada. Bucking tradition, the provincial government had not been consulted about the appointment.

The queen, Canada's head of state, is represented on the Canadian federal level by a governor general, and lieutenant governors in each province, who have only ceremonial roles.

Selected for a five-year term by the federal government, lieutenant governors open and close provincial Parliaments and ceremonially give royal assent to laws adopted by them. (AFP)

Brundtland Already Started on Memoirs After Resignation

OSLO -- Just eleven days after resigning as Norwegian Prime Minister, Gro Harlem Brundtland is well advanced in writing her memoirs, the Norwegian news agency NTB said recently.

The 57-year old, who is back in Parliament as an MP, has already written 100 pages by hand on foolscap paper.

"Yes, this will probably be a book. I have just let it flow, that which came naturally out of my pen," she told NTB, adding: "It is an unusual feeling of freedom that I haven't had for many years."

Gro, as she is affectionately called in Norway, would not say when her writings might be ready for the literary market.

"Right now I want to write spontaneously. The next process is to write a book," she said, admitting that she is computer illiterate and a PC course is planned.

Brundtland, who served as prime minister for 10 years between 1981 and 1996, officially resigned on October 25 at her own request, handing over the reigns of power to Labor Party Chairman Thorbjoern Jagland.

Her name has circulated as one of the possible candidates to take over the post of UN secretary general when Boutros Boutros-Ghali's mandate expires at the end of the year. (AFP)

British Government to Crack Down on Video, TV Violence

LONDON -- Britain's Conservative government on Tuesday announced a crackdown on television and video violence, staking its claim to the moral high ground with an eye to national elections less than six months away.

Home Office Minister Tom Sackville, speaking to the British Video Association's annual meeting, called for significant cuts in the level of television and video violence.

"Violence in our society is a huge evil: we have seen the tragic examples of its destructive power," he said.

"We must redouble our efforts to raise standards in the media and the video industry has a major role to play in achieving that objective."

His superior, Home Secretary Michael Howard, who has proposed tough anti-crime legislation in an attempt to reverse the Tories' huge opinion poll deficit, has demanded the British Board of Film Classification (BBFC) submit a report about its plans to cut video violence.

And National Heritage Secretary Virginia Bottomley has called for a meeting with British Broadcasting Corporation Chairman Sir Christopher Bland and two television watchdogs to discuss new proposals to protect children and vulnerable groups from TV violence.

A Home Office spokeswoman said that in Howard's letter to the BBFC, he said he had "become aware of a mood of considerable public concern over the issue of violence in society generally, given voice by Mrs. Frances Lawrence's recent appeal."

The widow of Philip Lawrence, a London school headmaster killed by a 16-year-old armed with a combat knife, last month issued an impassioned plea for a moral regeneration of society, blaming screen violence for contributing to teenage crime.

Both the Conservatives and the opposition Labor Party, which is heavily favored to win the next national elections, due by May 1, 1997, have sought to reap political capital from her crusade. (AFP)

Several Arrests Made in Probe on Thefts of Armored Cars

BRUSSELS -- Three men suspected of having taken part in a series of thefts against armored cars transporting cash have been arrested near here and charged with belonging to a criminal organization, judicial sources said Tuesday.

The trio, identified as Vincent B., Muzafer P. and Thierry D., were arrested on October 28 in Kraainem, a neighborhood on the outskirts of Brussels, but police had kept the arrests secret in the event other suspects were identified, the prosecutor's office said.

Several submachine guns as well as two 9mm pistols and a large quantity of explosives were seized during the raid, it added.

It said that two of the suspects, Vincent B. and Muzafer P., are suspected of having taken part in several holdups against armored vehicles transporting money since the end of last year.

Similar attacks, apparently not linked, have taken place in Belgium and northern France during the same period, leaving three people dead and about a dozen others injured, including a seven-year-old girl who was paralyzed.

Last September, seven other people were arrested in the central town of Nivelles for an attack against an armored vehicle that left the driver seriously injured. (AFP)

DNA List of Offenders on the Way in Britain

LONDON -- British plans to establish a national DNA database of all violent and sexual offenders look almost certain to become law, it emerged Tuesday.

A bill to introduce the legislation, drafted by the Home Office, is to be piloted through the House of Commons by Tory backbencher Nigel Evans and has been promised support from the opposition Labor Party.

"The effect of this bill will be wide-ranging and dramatic on serious repeat offenders," Evans told journalists.

"It will ensure that no felon convicted of serious violent or sexual crime will be able to commit another crime of this nature without being caught.

"All that a criminal has to do is leave one hair at the scene of a crime and, thanks to the DNA database, he will be caught," he added.

German Terrorist Jailed for Life After Murder Convictions

FRANKFURT -- A member of the extreme leftwing Red Army Faction, Birgit Hogefeld, was sentenced to life imprisonment Tuesday by a Frankfurt court for multiple murder and attempted murder for her part in RAF terrorist attacks.

Hogefeld, 40, was accused of the murder of a U.S. soldier and two others in an attack on the U.S. Rhein-Main Airbase near Frankfurt in 1985, an assassination attempt against the Finance Secretary (now Bundesbank president) Hans Tietmeyer in 1988, and an attack on a newly-built prison in 1993.

In their ruling after a trial which had lasted nearly two years, the judges said that she bore particularly heavy guilt, thus reducing the chances of a remission of her sentence, which would normally be automatic after 15 years.

Hogefeld was found guilty on three counts of murder, four of attempted murder, membership of a terrorist organization, causing explosions, kidnapping and possession of weapons. She had denied all the charges.

She was acquitted of the death of a police officer in a controversial special security forces operation at Bad Kleinen, eastern Germany, in which she was arrested in June 1993.

The court said the evidence showed that Michael Newrzella of the crack GSG-9 unit was killed by her companion and presumed RAF terrorist, Wolfgang Grams, who also died in the operation.

The police were accused of shooting Grams as he lay on the ground in the Bad Kleinen Railway Station, and the unclear circumstances of his death led to the resignation of Rudolf Seiters as federal interior minister.

More than 20 members of the RAF have been sentenced to life imprisonment for murder and attempted murder and many others have received lesser sentences since the now-defunct terrorist group became active at the end of the 1960s. (AFP)





A Plague on All Our Houses

PART 2

"The tiger mosquito is a competent vector for both viruses," as well as others such as eastern equine encephalitis, says Roger Nasci, at the Centers for Disease Control's arbovirus laboratory in Fort Collins, Colorado. ("Arbovirus" stands for "arthropod-borne virus," those carried by mosquitos, ticks, and the like.)

AIDS is creeping through the U.S. population, has killed two million people worldwide, and is just beginning to explode in Asia.

Biologist George Craig Jr., at Notre Dame University, warns that even in the absence of cases of known disease caused by the tigers, the risk of a major health problem is growing as their population expands.

Since arriving in the United States 10 years ago, tiger mosquitos have spread to 537 counties in 23 states, some being reported as far north as Chicago. The buzzing, stinging insects are now so ubiquitous in some areas, such as New Orleans and some Florida cities, that they have become the dominant mosquitos there.

"In Jacksonville, Ocala, and Gainesville (all in Florida), you step out your back door and these things hit you," Craig says. "The numbers are growing, and we're not very good at controlling them; concerted mosquito control methods such as draining marshes and spraying insecticide are not very effective."

Unfortunately, tiger mosquitos have ample opportunity to pick up and spread diseases from various sources. Researchers were surprised to find that they attack so many different kinds of animals, including cows horses, rats, birds, and humans.

"They are turning out to be the most catholic of mosquitos" in terms of their feeding habits, Craig says: "In East St. Louis, for example, their primary blood meal is from rats."

Enterococcus gradually becoming drug resistant

One of the diseases that may eventually be picked up and spread by tiger mosquitos is dengue, also known — with devastating accuracy — as "breakbone fever." It is already endemic throughout the Caribbean, including Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. A victim's initial infection by dengue is usually bad enough, causing symptoms that include fever, headache, and very sever joint and muscle pain.

Ebola virus among the 600,000 people of Kikwit is a frightening example of overcrowding, poor sanitation and lack of medical care."

But a second dengue infection caused by a different strain of the virus becomes truly dangerous. The combination generate a 30 percent death rate in children.

In the past, the different strains of dengue were separated by long distances. "But now modern transportation is getting them all mixed together in places like the Caribbean," Craig says. The mixing may also soon occur in Florida and Louisiana. On a worldwide basis, he adds, dengue is very widespread, "right up there with malaria," which is seen in millions and millions of people in tropical regions around the world.

Yellow fever is another, perhaps less likely candidate for transmission by tiger mosquitos. The virus causes symptoms of varying severity, including fever, headache, jaundice, and hemorrhage. Death occurs in as may as 10 percent of all cases.

Scientists have already assessed the potential results if mosquito-borne yellow fever hits a large city, such as New Orleans:

"We know the insect vectors are there," says Bloom. "A vaccine for yellow fever exists, but it's not being manufactured. So the prediction, if yellow fever were to break out, is that the vaccine supply would be exhausted in several days. Within 90 days, 100,000 people would be infected, and 10,000 would likely die. Obviously, it would overwhelm the health care system and cost huge amounts of money."

It may be difficult or impossible to avoid lapses such as the importation of a dangerous mosquito. But many other kinds of public health missteps that open the door to disease are preventable.

Such mistakes often consist of simple errors of omission, like failing to administer the standard vaccination series to young children, which can have serious health impacts. Whooping cough erupted recently in England after many parents, concerned about rare complications from pertussis vaccines, left their children unprotected. And in Russia, where the collapse of the Soviet Union disrupted medical services, diphtheria has reemerged as a raging health problem.

Between 1989 and 1991, 56,000 cases of measles were reported in the United States. As a result, Bloom says, "there were 132 deaths from a 100 percent vaccine-preventable disease — because we didn't get the vaccine out to the kids."

The danger is being exacerbated by patterns of modern travel. Thanks to jet aircraft, it now takes only hours for a Bombay slum dweller to reach the suburbs of London; it takes just a day or so to travel from Kinshasa to San Diego. And, as with tiger mosquitos, disease and its carriers can arrive not just with passengers themselves but also in cargo.

Beyond the threats from alien mosquitos, emerging diseases such as Ebola, and imported diseases such as AIDS, another nightmare scenario has arisen from a half century of widespread — and often indiscriminate — use of antibiotic drugs.

"We know as we throw antibiotics at organisms that unless it's done carefully, we're selecting for those organisms that are very resistant," Bloom says. If drug treatment is not aggressive enough, or doesn't continue long enough, the antibiotic kills susceptible bacteria but can leave the resistant ones to multiply blissfully.

As part of this drug resistance process, disease organisms are constantly swapping genes with each other, so mutations that bring drug resistance occur. "There's more genetic engineering taking place in your intestine than in all of the biotechnology companies," Bloom says.

"The one we're all worried about is a major increase in Vancomycin-resistant enterococcus, an intestinal bug that is common in elderly patients after surgery," Bloom says. "It's a hospital infection, is very hard to treat, and it kills about 70,000 patients annually. And enterococcus is gradually becoming drug resistant."

The threat is that the genes for resistance to Vancomycin may get transferred into the most common hospital-based infection, staphylococcus, which is already resistant to penicillin and is becoming resistant to a related antibiotic.

"For now, staphylococcus is treated very well with Vancomycin," Bloom says. "The nightmare is that if the gene for Vancomycin resistance in enterococcus jumps to staph, we'll have a strain for which we have no appropriate antibiotic on the shelf. That will potentially decimate patients who've undergone major surgery."

There's also a possibility that disease problems will soon be brewing in California. If the Golden State enforces last November's vote to deny routine medical services to illegal immigrants, a pool of unvaccinated, vulnerable people could soon build up, raising the odds of a disease outbreak.

"Because of the stinginess in taking care of people —and the stinginess in supporting research — we're setting ourselves up for some unpleasant surprises," says population scientist Richard Levins, at the Harvard School of Public Health.

In time, huge costs may follow if diseases erupt within a large population of unprotected people. And if the undocumented workers and their families fail to seek treatment, fearing identification as illegal aliens, diseases may fester longer, wider, and have even greater public health impact.

"The most vulnerable populations are the source of diseases for everyone else," Levins warns. "And the sources that are most dangerous are the prisons, nursing homes, and day-care centers."

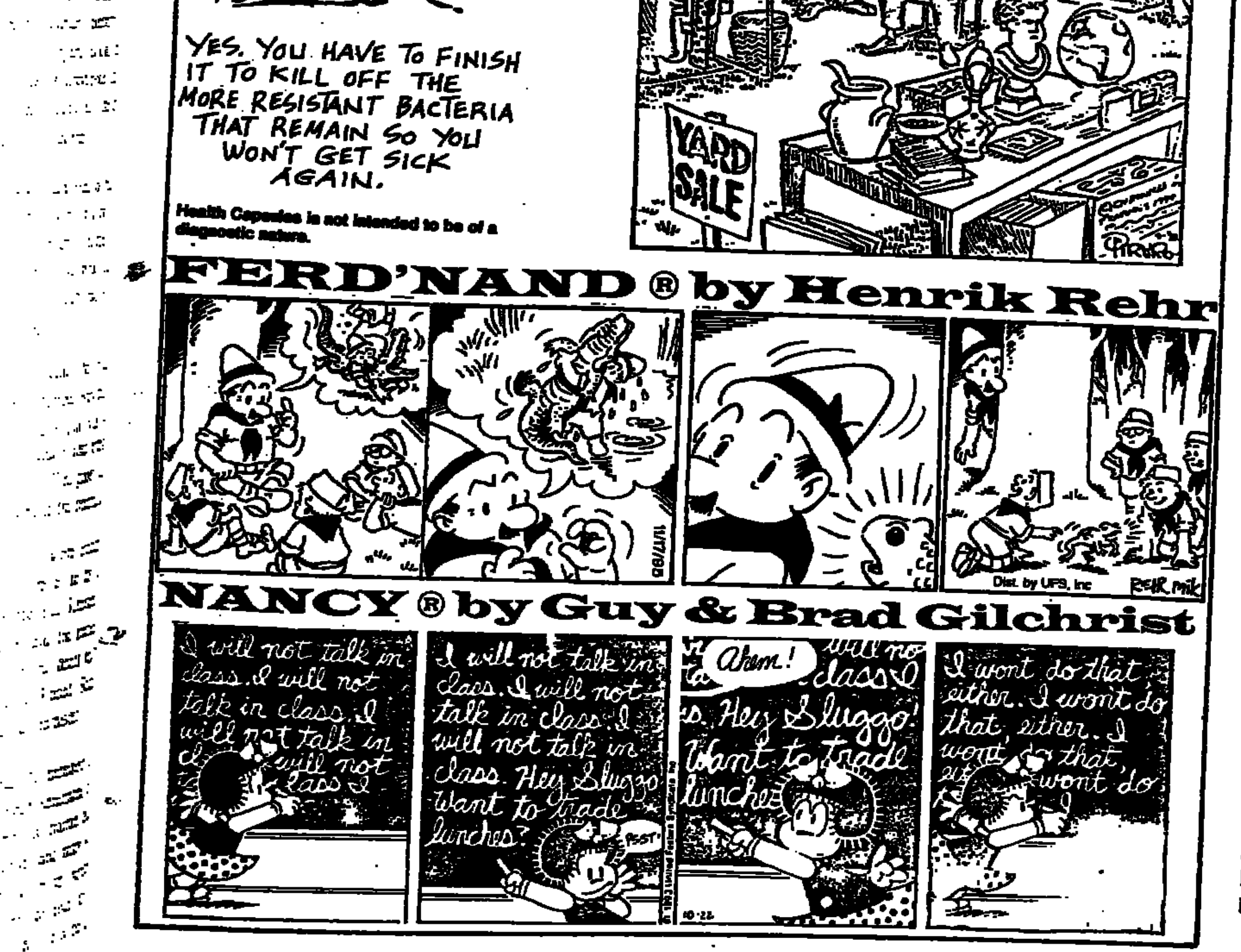
To launch a disease requires certain conditions, and each disease organism has its own set of preferences and requirements.

"By looking at it from the point of view of the pathogens,."

Levins says, "we can get some idea of the factors that allow a microbe to infect a host, reproduce, and spread. What does it need to be happy? It has to get a good meal. It also has to escape the host's defenses. And it has to have an exit to get to another host. Each microbe juggles these opposing demands in the light of the capacity it has, its genes."

Levins, who looks at diseases from a broad ecological perspective, also says that every disease needs a minimum population.

(To be cont'd)



Thought

It is reported that Abu Abd Allah [Imam Sadiq], peace be with him, said: Verily Jesus the son of Mary, peace be with him, came to the tomb of John the son of Zachariah, peace be with him, and he asked his Lord to revive him. Then he called him, and he answered him and he came out from the grave and said to him: What do you want from me? And he said to him: I want you to be friends with me as you were in this world. Then he said to him: O Jesus! The heat of death has not yet subsided, and you want me to return to the world ad the heat of death would return to me. So he [Jesus] left him, and he returned to his grave.

(Kafi, Vol. 3, P. 26)

PRAYER

Noon	11:48
Evening	17:23
Dawn (tomorrow)	5:
Sunrise (tomorrow)	6:35

Romanian Villagers Contract HIV

BUCHAREST — More than half the residents of a Romanian village have been infected with the virus causing AIDS after many of its women went off to a Black Sea port to work, a newspaper reported on

The daily Cronica Romania quoted officials at the main hospital in the port of Constanta as saying that more than half the population in the nearby village of Garliciu carried the HIV-virus. It did not give exact figures of those affected.

The women from the village had worked as prostitutes at the port of Constanta.

"The disease spread through unprotected sexual intercourse of these women with fellow villagers." Rodica Matusa, a well-known expert in Romanian on acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS). told the daily.

He further pointed out: "The women from Garliciu have operated in the port and abroad and come back 'enriched' to their native village."

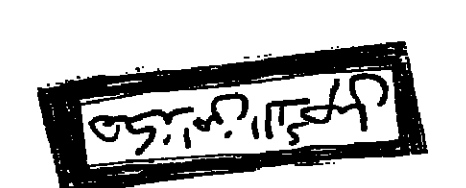
More than 3.500 children have been infected with HIV through injections and blood transfusions — accounting for more than half of Europe's paediatric AIDS cases.

Officially statistics show that Romania has 2.300 AIDS sufferers. but only 200 are adults. A total of 272 adults are listed as HIV-carriers.

Romania also has one of the lowest rates in eastern Europe for use of condoms as a contraceptive, though family planning has made some progress since the fall of Communism in 1989.

Communist dictator Nicolae Ceausescu banned abortions to help boost the national birth rate and most means of contraception were unavailable until after his overthrow and execution in 1989.

(Reuter)



Advanced Technology in IRGC Helicopter Industry In the Making

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN — The Islamic Revolution Guard Corp (IRGC) initiated a research project on the construction of a helicopter in 1986. The sensitive project was conducted by the IRGC Self-Sufficiency Jihad Department.

Due to the geographical features and varied temperatures of Iran, a whirlybird had to be designed in a manner such that it could perform efficiently in mountainous, desert, forest and coastal regions, providing full service at low cost and compatible with international standards.

Once the helicopters were on the production line, they were supposed to operate in non-military areas for pilot training, observation, traffic control and surveillance mission of pipelines, borders, and coastal areas in order to provide humanitarian assistance in a country where natural disasters are common.

To render the country self-sufficient in whirlybird helicopters, the IRGC Self-Sufficiency Jihad was commissioned to initiate a research project in this area.

Initially, the protomodel of the fuselage was studied by top Iranian engineers. The fuselage model on a scale of 1/10 of the original body underwent several aerodynamic tests; at the same time, the transmission system, the hub system for the rotor cooling system were studied and tested for efficiency.

Shahed X-5 to be ready in 1997.

The modifications of the fuselage, the rotor hub, the blade, the torque, the transmission system and oil cooling system were measured by international standards regulating the production of helicopters.

Several international catalogues were studied, including the Joint Airworthiness Regulations (JAR), BCAR and FAR. The engineers began to see Iranian capability in producing parts which would be able to function under the most severe conditions.

Shahed X-1 was put through its paces. The two-blade copter, weighing about 800 kilograms, with a 200-horsepower engine, was successfully tested for take-off to test its power in countering a 20-ton gravity pull.

The engineers immediately embarked on the second phase producing Shahed X-2. This time the engineers concentrated on the maximum ceiling, its forward thrust and smooth landing to observe its capability. Shahed X-2, with a 200-hp engine, was successfully tested in 1989. President Rafsanjani oversaw the progress of the project.

The third phase, Shahed X-3 (also equipped with a 200-hp engine), was initiated in order to study its forward, backward and sideward maneuverability. Once again, in flight tests in 1991, the helicopter proved its airworthiness.

In 1994, Commander of the IRGC Air Force, Brigadier General Jalali, took Shahed X-4 for its final flight test. He disembarked the helicopter with a smile. He said, "This is the copter I've wanted to fly."

The flight test was filmed on video, the report submitted to the Leader of the Islamic Revolution, and Commander-in- Chief, Ayatollah Seyed Ali Khamenei, who said, "This is a blessed beginning. Therefore, we should move forward with all our strength, making use of our capabilities."

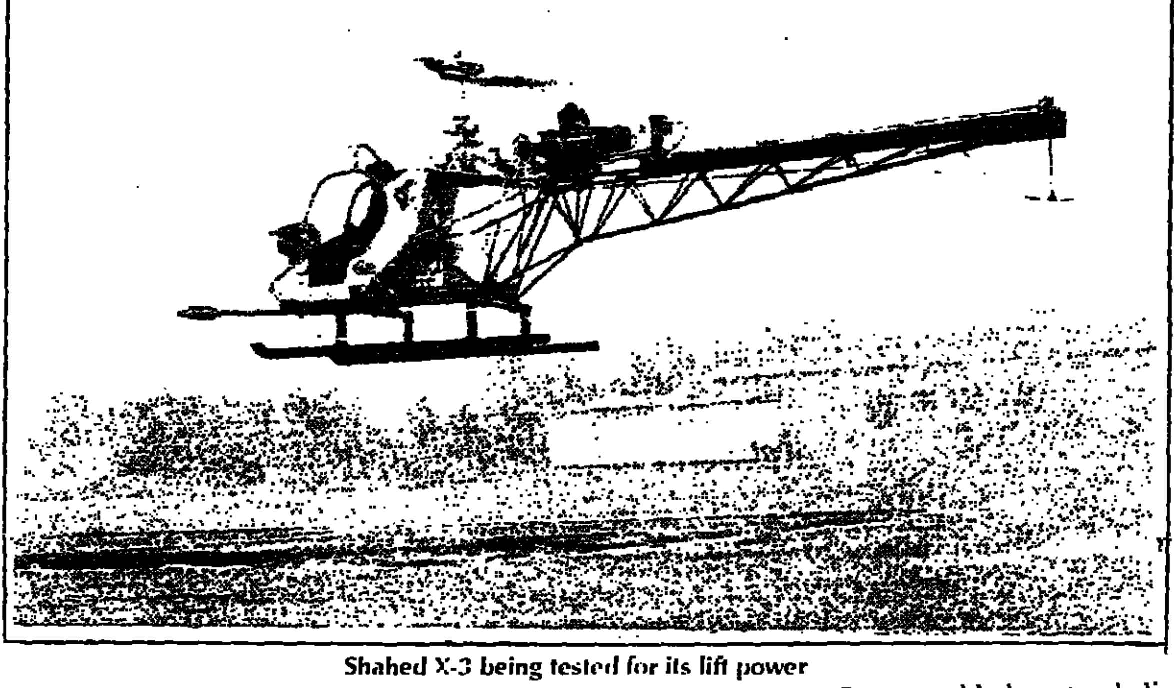
October 19, 1996, marks a historical event in advanced Iranian technology, when the Iranian media had the opportunity to observe the flight of Shahed X-4 at Shahid Khazraee Helicopter Manufacturing Center. They observed its takeoff, hovering, turning, forward, rearward, sideways flights, and, finally, its ground drag effect.

At the end of the flight test, this correspondent stole the time to talk to the flight test pilot, Lt. Colonel Salary, who had been on the project from the initial stages. "Had the experimental helicopter been unsafe, I would not be alive," he said.

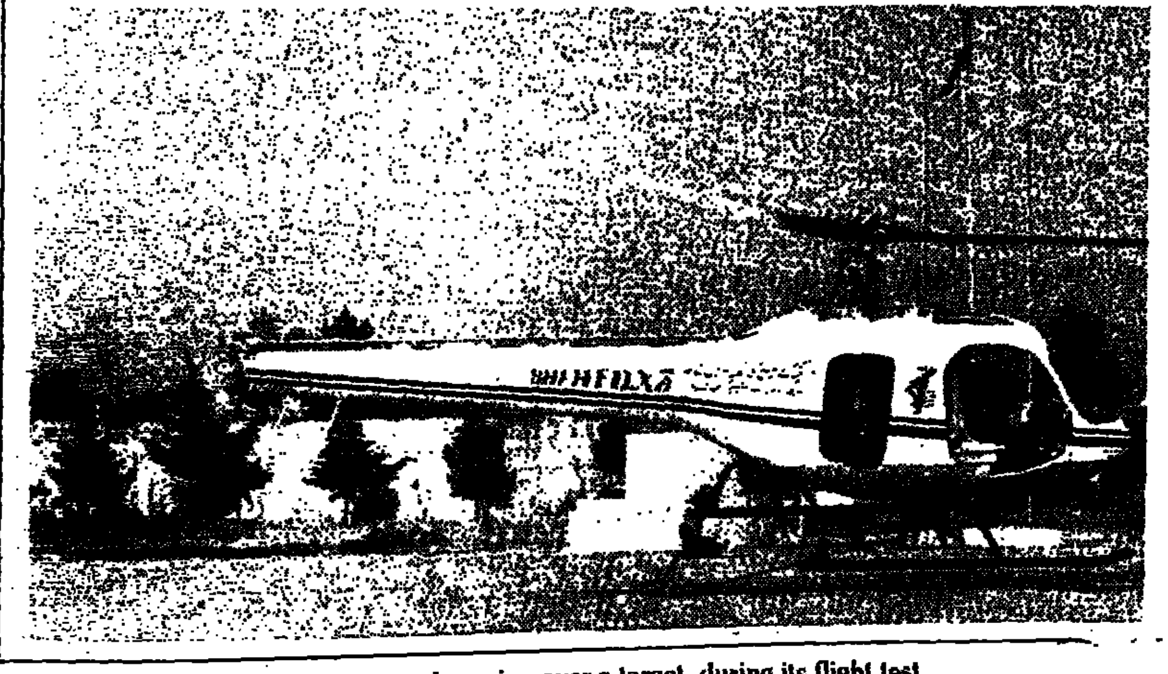
The Managing Director of the IRGC Self-Sufficiency Jihad Project, Seyyed Saeed Ziaee, and head of the Research Center, Jalal Fallah, presented their plan to the media.

They said that in 1997 IRGC will produce Shahed X-5, a two-blade rotor helicopter, with a 300-hp turbo engine, capable of cruising at 180 kmph, flying a distance of over 400 kilometers, at 4,500 meters above sea level. The non-military chopper will accommodate four passengers. It will cost less than $250,000. If Iran had to import such a helicopter, it would cost the country at least $900,000.

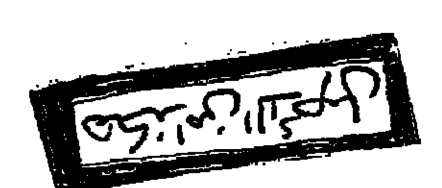
They did not disclose the number of helicopters to be manufactured annually. They were of the opinion that they would produce enough to keep the Islamic Republic of Iran self-sufficient.



Shahed X-3 being tested for its lift power



Shahed X-4, seen hovering over a target, during its flight test



Erosion of Confucian Values Sees Elderly Out in the Cold

TOKYO — In Japan and many other Asian countries the elderly have traditionally been cared for by their families, but with the gradual erosion of Confucian values an increasing number of them are living and dying alone.

Many recent reports on the plight of the elderly have shocked Japan, in particular that of a 91 year-old whose body was found in his bed five days after his death in a private hospice for old people in Sapporo, northern Japan.

The man, whose identity was not revealed, was found dead by family members who had gone to visit him on October 3. None of the hospice's 17 employees had bothered to find out about his condition and had even failed to notice that he had not taken his meals for days. This despite the establishment's claim of ensuring round-the-clock attention to the needs of its 132 residents.

"We are shocked because we had thought he would be safe in this place," a relative said.

The president of the Japanese Association of Hospices, Masaru Kawakami, described it as an "intolerable incident" and the first such case since the institution was set up in 1982.

It was hardly an isolated incident. In Tokyo alone, there were 1,049 cases in 1994 of elderly people who died alone, almost double the 1988 figure of 583, according to *Focus Weekly*.

Falling birth rates and shrinking family sizes are seen as one factor behind the phenomenon. "Modernity" too takes the blame, with *Focus Weekly* commenting that "people living in urban areas shy away from looking into other people's business."

Sociologist Kokichi Shiji of Tokyo University said: "The number of reported cases is no more than the tip of the iceberg.

"We are shocked because we had thought he would be safe in this place."

"Until the 1960s, Japan had a code of ethics inherited from Confucianism, which ensured that the elderly breathed their last surrounded by their kith and kin. That's finished," he said, referring to the philosophy founded in China in the fifth century BC by Kong Zi or Confucius, setting out precise rules of conduct and loyalty to parents and elderly people.

The primary reason for its erosion is Japan's rapid economic growth in the post-war years, Shiji said.

Moreover, combined with the aging population, the family size is shrinking inexorably. The younger generation no longer wants to live with parents, he said.

The Japanese Health and Welfare Ministry estimates the population of those aged 65 and over will reach 17.75 million in the year 2010, accounting for 21.3 percent of the total population.

Japan will then have the largest proportion of elderly people in the industrialized world.

"Confucianism is waning gradually. The sense of solidarity among people too is disappearing. More and more, people live alone," Shiji said.

Others among those who die alone are the underprivileged people pushed to the margins of society. Among them are the victims of the Kobe earthquake of January 17, 1995. One, Masao Yamashita, 38, survived the quake but his body was found ten months after he died in one of the temporary shelters which still house some 40,000 families in the city.

Early this year, several shocking media reports had exposed the plight of underprivileged classes in the world's number two economic power.

Early this year, several shocking media reports had exposed the plight of underprivileged classes in the world's number two economic power.

On April 18 this year, a couple was found to have died from starvation in a parked car in Tokyo's industrial area. The car was their home. The 68 year-old man had been dead for a fortnight and his 54 year-old wife had succumbed a week later. On April 27, police found the bodies of a 77 year-old woman and her 41 year-old son, both of whom had died of starvation in their apartment in downtown Tokyo.

One of the most macabre cases was the discovery, a few weeks ago, of the body of a man in his 50s who had died more than a year and a half earlier in a flat close to the skyscrapers of Shinjuku, Tokyo's ultramodern business hub. (AFP)

ALEXANDRIA, Egypt (November 3): Thierry Hanchin, a French archeologist, shows on a screen here a computer image of a head of a statue from the Ptolemaic Era, found in the port of Alexandria last June. Franck Goddio, 49, the leader of the French underwater archeologist team, announced that he has found relics in the port of Alexandria which will help locate the former palaces of Antony and Cleopatra.

(AFP PHOTO)

"Dumbing Down" of Fifth Avenue Makes Bluebloods See Red

NEW YORK — In New York's Fifth Avenue, operators and customers of posh stores like Tiffany's are bristling at some of the new neighbors — including Bugs Bunny and Mickey Mouse.

The so-called "Platinum Belt" on the famed avenue between Rockefeller Center and Central Park South has long been home to prestigious retailers like Saks Fifth Avenue or Bergdorf Goodman and jewelers such as Harry Winston.

But recent years have seen the invasion of "superstores" normally found in the suburbs, such as those operated by Walt Disney, Warner Brothers, and Coca-Cola. And just Friday a 7,000-square meter (70,000 square foot) "Nike Town" emporium was opened by Nike, the sporting goods maker.

In the district believed to have the highest commercial rents in the world after Tokyo's Ginza, some see signs of a battle of social classes.

"The dumbing down of Fifth Avenue is full steam ahead," said Alan Millstein, a real estate analyst and adviser to luxury goods retailers.

"This is very, very, unpleasant," said one smartly dressed shopper outside the Harry Winston Jewelry Boutique. "One has to fight through a crowd of people eating their sandwiches on the street, you would think you're in California."

Average rents last year were more than $4,000 per square meter. But the Disney store was believed to have offered a higher rent than the three stores it displaced — Switzerland's Bailly Shoes, Germany's Goldpfeil Leather Goods and the French "La Cote Basque" Restaurant.

"In the long term, it seems the only people who'll pay the outrageous rents are mall-based stores with more appeal to the masses than the classes," said Millstein.

Some observers say the decline could have been forecast with the opening of the Trump Tower — a glittering office building and shopping plaza — a decade ago on the avenue.

Luxury crystal maker Baccarat recently subbed Fifth Avenue by setting up shop on nearby Madison Avenue near the Calvin Klein and Versace Shops.

Yet others say the newcomers have helped revitalize the district and prevented it from falling into decline.

"I don't see how that kind of a change is a negative impact on the carriage trade," said Tom Cusik, president of the Fifth Avenue Association, representing area merchants.

Some luxury retailers seem to be accepting the trend rather than fighting it.

French-owned LMVH, the world's leading diversified luxury goods producer, recently presented plans for a 23-story Louis Vuitton tower on 57th Street at Fifth Avenue, next to Chanel.

(AFP)

Two Brothers Unite After 14 Years

ARCATAO, El Salvador — Fourteen years after civil war tore them apart, Pablo and Emilio Rivera Lopez were reunited in their Salvadoran village over a feast of roasted chickens and tamales.

Smiles broke out when the brothers returned from their adoptive homes in France, one of a handful of poignant reunions as hundreds of other war orphans wait to meet lost relatives.

The Salvadoran Army killed the boys' parents in a 1982 sweep through the northern province of Chalatenango, site of some of the worst fighting and human rights abuses in the 12-year civil war that ended in 1992.

At the time, the brothers were 7 and 4. Two younger sisters remain missing.

After four years in an orphanage in El Salvador, two French families adopted the boys, taking them to different homes.

Pablo went to Ales near Marseille and Emilio wound up in the northern French city of Lille. They learned a year ago that their sibling was living in France, but did not meet until last week.

Their paternal grandparents had asked a humanitarian group, the Association for the Search for Missing War Children, to help find the brothers.

In the past two years the organization that found them has located 30 such children, four in the United States, 21 in El Salvador, three in Italy and two in France, sometimes using DNA samples from relatives to confirm identities.

"The orphan children of Arcatao welcome Pablo and Emilio with much love," read a sign in the village, 70 miles north of the capital, San Salvador.

There were red roses cut from the gardens of the humble, tile-roofed houses for the boys, young men now. Pablo is studying economics in college and Emilio is in high school.

Emilio, 18, is a dark-eyed youth with the straw-colored hair common in Chalatenango. He speaks no Spanish. His older brother recalls only a few words.

"I think all wars cause victims," said Pablo, whose last name is now Espagnac. He blinked back tears as he cast for words in a labored Spanish heavily accented by French.

"I don't remember anything; I have very faint memories of my parents," said Emilio, whose last name is Godin.

After being welcomed, the brothers and much of the rest of the town went to the church to meet relatives.

Survivors told the boys how their parents died and how they became separated from the rest of the family.

"I left here because of the war, I was very young so I can't say it was voluntary but in France I found a family that loves me and appreciates me," Pablo said with the help of an interpreter.

Their barefoot grandmother, Celsa Serrano, said she and her husband used up their small savings for the fiesta to kick off the boys' weeklong visit.

"I'm happy they came and that I got to know them again. I always had faith I would not die without seeing them again and I'm sure I will find my other two granddaughters," said Serrano, 73.

"God doesn't give us a present like this every day," she added.

(AP)

U.S., Argentine Satellites Fail to Reach Orbit

WASHINGTON — Two satellites aboard a Pegasus rocket that blasted off from Virginia on Monday failed to achieve their proper orbits when they remained stuck to the rocket, the U.S. space agency said.

The lift-off from Wallops Island occurred on time and under ideal conditions, a spokesman for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration said.

"It's the first time in the Pegasus program that we had a problem of this nature," a NASA spokesman said.

The Argentine SAC-B satellite and the U.S. satellite Hete from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology could not detach themselves from the rocket's third stage.

SAC-B was a joint project between NASA and the Argentine space agency Conae aimed at helping scientists study solar physics and astrophysics. (AFP)

Life on Earth Began 400 Million Years Earlier

LOS ANGELES — A rock formation discovered in Greenland shows life has existed on earth for at least 3.85 billion years, or 400 million years earlier than previously thought.

In the November 7 issue of *Nature*, scientists said rocks formations found on Akilia Island in southern West Greenland analyzed at the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA) support the finding, according to the latest issue of *Nature* magazine.

The form of life discovered was probably a simple microorganism, although its actual shape or nature cannot be ascertained, Mojzsis said, because heat and pressure over time have destroyed those traits.

The previous earliest evidence for life was presented by UCLA paleobiologist William Schopf who showed that a bacteria-like fossil much like modern "pond scum" existed on earth 3.46 billion years ago.

"An important contribution to the solution of this problem could come from exploration of the surface of Mars for traces there of extinct life."

Participating in the research were scientists from the University of California's San Diego's Scripps Institution of Oceanography, UCLA Department of Earth and Space Sciences, the Australian Nation University and England's Oxford Brookes University.

"Our evidence establishes beyond reasonable doubt that life emerged on earth at least 3.85 billion years ago, and this is not the end of the story," said Sripps' Stephen Mojzsis who authored the article. "We may well find that life existed even earlier."

The carbon inclusions in the rock were analyzed with UCLA's high-resolution ion microprobe — an instrument that enables scientist to learn the exact composition of samples.

"Life is tenacious, and it completely permeates the surface layer of the planet," Mojzsis said, adding that evidence of life's origins could well be further out in the universe.

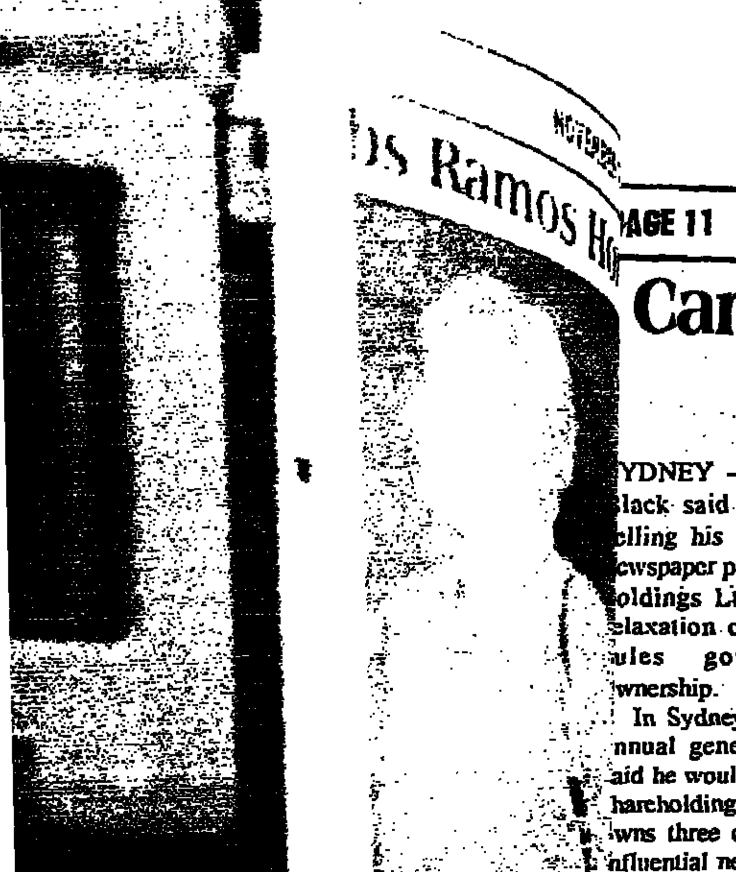
"We find life beneath the deepest ocean, on the highest mountain, in the driest desert and the coldest glacier, and deep down in the crustal rocks and sediments."

"Not knowing what conditions are needed for the emergence of life, it is only possible to speculate about its existence elsewhere in the universe," Mojzsis said.

"An important contribution to the solution of this problem could come from exploration of the surface of Mars for traces there of extinct life."

(AFP)





Canadian Black Considers Quitting Australian Publisher Fairfax

SYDNEY — Canadian Conrad Black said he would consider selling his controlling stake in newspaper publisher John Fairfax Holdings Ltd. if there was no relaxation of Australian media rules governing foreign ownership.

In Sydney for the company's annual general meeting, Black said he would like to increase his shareholding in the group, which owns three of the nation's most influential newspapers — *The Financial Review, The Sydney Morning Herald and The Age of Melbourne.*

"If the road is truly blocked then obviously we're going," Black told reporters. "We're going somehow and some way."

Australian foreign ownership laws currently bar overseas companies from owning more than 15 percent of commercial television licenses and 25 percent of the major newspaper groups.

The coalition government indicated before its March election victory that it would hold an inquiry into the regulations, but came under fire recently for abandoning that plan in favor of an in-house review which the opposition claimed would be "rigged."

Black said he told Prime Minister John Howard he believed it was possible to liberalize Australia's foreign ownership and cross media ownership rules while maintaining the diversity of media ownership.

He told the meeting that although it would be premature to preempt the outcome of the government's review, he was confident of an outcome that he would be pleased with.

Speaking in response to a question from a shareholder, the media tycoon confirmed earlier indications that he wished to boost his 25 percent stake to 50 percent.

"As far as we're concerned, we have said we would like to increase our shareholding," he said.

Black also reiterated his faith in the future prosperity of Fairfax.

"This company is in very good shape and getting better," he said.

Analysts have long been tipping a three-way fight for control of Fairfax between Black and two other stakeholders — Australian media Mogul Kerry Packer who holds 17 percent and Rupert Murdoch's News Corp. with five percent.

However, a shake-up has been staved off by Australia's tough media ownership laws.

Cross-media ownership laws prevent companies controlling a television station from simultaneously owning more than 15 percent of a major newspaper in the same market.

Black said it was fairly improbable that Kerry Packer — who owns the top-rating nine network — could easily take over Fairfax and if he did, he would have to do it in the "old-fashioned way" (buy shares).

Black said he would consider expanding the group beyond newspapers if the media laws allowed.

(AFP)

China Eases Restrictions on Citizens Going Overseas



BEIJING — China is to ease restrictions on citizens leaving the country on private visits, while also strengthening the rights of passport holders, Xinhua reported.

An interim policy on processing exit visas was passed Tuesday at a national conference on emigration control and is expected to come into force by the end of 1996, the official news agency said.

According to the *China Daily*, application procedures and fees for personal passports will be standardized, along with accompanying conditions and time limits.

The moves are partly aimed at stamping out corruption in the passport application process, where bribes were once mandatory to avoid lengthy delays.

Director of the exit and entry administration of the Ministry of Public Security, Xu Ganlu, said applicants for personal passports would only be required to submit documents directly related to the purpose of their overseas trip.

In the past, applicants had often had to submit a stack of documents from their work or study units, testifying to their political reliability.

In the wake of the 1989 Tiananmen Square massacre, such regulations were tightened, especially for students seeking to study abroad.

According to Xu, all personal passports, except tourist passports, will be valid for a guaranteed five years and no officials will have the power to shorten the period.

In addition, temporary residents who have lived in a place for a certain period of time can apply for their passports locally rather than in their hometown.

The reforms follow a surging trend of Chinese going overseas for business, studies and holidays, notably over the past six years.

China Daily said 970,000 personal passports were issued in 1995, 12 times more than in 1986 and 37.5 percent more than in 1994.

During the first half of 1996 alone, 710,000 were issued.

And 9.04 million Chinese were authorized to go overseas for private reasons between 1990 and June 1996, including 4.6 million to Hong Kong and Macao, and 140,000 to Taiwan.

(AFP)

UN Weighs Proposals for Eastern Zaire

UNITED NATIONS — Germany and France made separate UN proposals to ease fighting in Zaire, with France's proposal going farther by calling for an ad hoc force, Western diplomats said.

During an informal exchange at UN headquarters, Germany proposed that the parties involved in the conflict establish neutral zones for refugees to help refugees return to their homes.

For its part, Paris seeks to have the UN Security Council authorize member states to oversee the safe distribution of humanitarian aid in Zaire, by, if necessary, creating protected zones.

According to the French proposal, the cost of such an operation would be shared by member security and development in Africa's Great Lakes region.

According to Western diplomats, the British are seeking more information about the military component of the French plan including its size, its goals and the rules of engagement.

Earlier Tuesday, U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Madeleine Albright said it would



Germany also raised the possibility of deploying UN military observers, particularly in the Zaire-Rwanda border, and of establishing humanitarian corridors states. France and Spain already have said they are prepared to participate in the force for Zaire.

The French plan also seeks an international conference on peace, be "premature" to discuss specific intervention plans for the region.

"There are a lot of questions and a lot of problems and not enough answers," she said.

British Education Authorities Act to Defuse Discipline Crisis

LONDON — The authorities acted to defuse the discipline crisis in Britain's education system, as local officials expelled 12 pupils from one of the country's worst schools.

The expulsions came on the eve of a government inspector report into the 600-pupil ridings school in the Yorkshire town of Halifax, closed by local officials last week after two teachers were assaulted.

The school was ordered shut on the very day government inspectors has been due to visit the school to assess the disciplinary crisis. Education officials said the safety of pupils and staff could not be guaranteed.

The local chief education officer, Ian Jennings, said a further 23 children would be excluded for a fixed term when the school reopens from Wednesday.

Before the closure, 31 teachers at the school voted to strikepin protest at the presence of some 60 pupils in the school, whose violent, disruptive behavior made working conditions impossible.

Another school in Nottinghamshire, central England, was also forced to close after teachers went on strike in protest at a 10-year-old pupil whom they claim is too violent to be taught there.

(AFP)

Germany Taken to Task on Discrimination Against Scientologists

GENEVA — Members of the UN Human Rights Committee meeting here have criticized official German discrimination against scientologists, as well as cases of police brutality, an official statement said.

The 18-member committee discussed the first report on the human rights situation in Germany to be submitted by Bonn under the terms of the 1976 International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights since the country was reunified in 1990.

The report stressed that it would take a long time to overcome the difficulties caused by inheriting the totalitarian system of the former East Germany.

A senior official of the German Justice Ministry, Matthias Weckerling, defended moves against the controversial church of scientology as prompted by the duty of the state to protect its citizens against the activities of certain religious sects.

But members of the committee said there was a very fine line between protecting the public and respecting the rights of religious expression and belief.

On numerous allegations of police ill-treatment of detainees, especially foreigners and asylum-seekers, Weckerling said those responsible had been punished and measures taken to prevent a recurrence.

The committee requested more information on the sort of sanctions imposed on the policemen concerned.

However, the committee said it was impressed by efforts made to extend civil and political rights in the former East Germany and rulings on human rights issued by the Federal Constitutional Court.

(AFP)

Vatican Cuts Aid to UNICEF Accusing It of Promoting Contraception

VATICAN CITY — The Vatican has suspended a symbolical $2,000 yearly contribution to the UN Children's Fund UNICEF, saying it supported contraception and abortion, a Vatican statement said.

Vatican representative to the United Nations Renato Martino announced the decision at a UN conference in New York focusing on financial aid to development projects.

The group said it regretted the Vatican's decision.

UNICEF spokeswoman Marie Heuze said in Geneva she was offended by the Vatican's accusations over the UN manual. "It is a book aimed at helping young girls and little girls who are raped in refugee camps all over the world," she said.

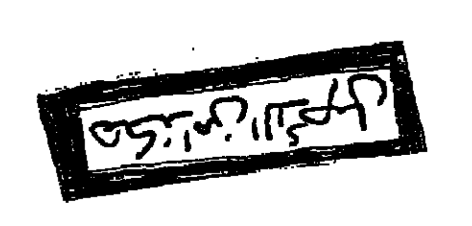
She said the issue of sexual abuse would be discussed at the UN General Assembly on Friday, in the presence of Graca Machel, the widow of the former Mozambique president.

The Vatican condemned UNICEF for promoting policies which it said were aimed at legalizing abortion.

But Heuze said populations chose their own form of family planning, "according to their needs, their values and preferences."

The organization has "never used its resources to promote abortion in any country," she said.

(AFP)



هكذا من الأصل

The Return of the Lion

Russia's finest troops couldn't defeat Ahmed Shah Massoud. Can the Taleban hope to do any better?

Ahmed Shah Massoud has returned to the house his grandfather built in Afghanistan's forbidding Panjshir Valley. The house overlooks the river in Jangalak, a mud-and-straw village of roughly 200 inhabitants about 100 kilometers north of Kabul. The Lion of the Panjshir, as the mujahedeen commander was known during the Russian occupation, came back to his old stronghold in September, bringing his library of 3,000 or so volumes with him. But he's not here to read or to stay. Massoud's troops have already begun their drive to retake the capital from the Taleban militia. With his troops poised on Kabul's outskirts two weeks ago, the former Afghan defense minister warned the city's new rulers to leave or be ready to die. "You can call this more or less an ultimatum," he told *Newsweek*.

Massoud doesn't make idle threats. Other Afghan forces may be better armed than his, but no one equals his military skill.

He had never lived in the Panjshir when he took refuge in his



ABDUL RASHID DOSTUM

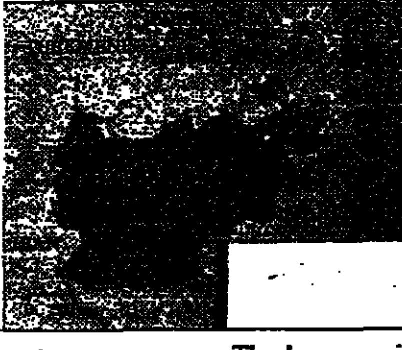
family's ancestral valley after the 1978 communist takeover. But the inhabitants liked the young former engineering student's style. He rallied them to the resistance cause and organized his recruits into small, mobile guerrilla units. Unlike most



AHMED SHAH MASSOUD

other Mujahedeen, Massoud's fighters developed the knack of operating effectively far from their homes. It was a vital skill; the Soviets began destroying entire villages in their effort to eradicate local resistance. All told, Moscow sent seven major expeditions with some of its best equipment and fighters to capture the valley during the 10-year occupation. Each time they returned to their bases in defeat.

Massoud's battlefield brilliance eventually brought him to an arena where he had no skill whatever. In 1992, three years after the Russians finally quit and went home, their Afghan puppet regime fell, and Massoud rode triumphantly into Kabul. He and other Mujahedeen leaders spent the next four years alternately trying to kill one another and attempting to form a working government together. It's hard to say which did more damage: the shooting or the governing. Massoud's aides complain that some former Mujahedeen leaders ran their ministries as personal fiefdoms, robbing their enemies, enriching their friends and feeding their own lust for power. The public's anger at such abuses helped win recruits for the Taleban's reformist cause.



Yet the Taleban's pretensions of "purity" gall Massoud. His enemies have hated him not for his ideology but for thwarting their hunger for power. Most Afghan leaders don't conceal their cutthroat ambition. When Kabul fell to the Taleban, Massoud helped spirit the rival Mujahedeen leader Gulbuddin Hekmatyar out of Kabul to safety.

Vague plans: Massoud himself shows scant interest in power. Sometimes he talks to friends about what he would do if peace came: perhaps start a small business, he says, or maybe run for Parliament. Two weeks ago, he expressed vague intentions of doing a better job in Kabul if he succeeds in driving the Taleban out. "We will try to solve our problems through negotiation," he says. "Let the people make their own destiny."

Still, his military thinking seems as keen as ever. The less experienced Taleban commanders hooted contemptuously at how swiftly he pulled his forces north out of Kabul in September. But he got his men out as a unit. They hauled as much armor and munitions as possible into the Panjshir Valley and then dynamited the entrance, sealing it off against any attempt to pursue them. Then they regrouped and waited. Down the highway toward Kabul, war-weary villagers at first appeared to welcome the advancing Taleban fighters as bringers of peace. But after only a few days under the militia's control, the locals rose up against their harsh new rulers. Massoud's forces pushed southward again, driving the Taleban back to the outskirt of Kabul. Two weeks ago, heavily armed troops loyal to another of Massoud's old enemies, General Abdul Rashid Dostum, joined forces with him and pushed on toward Kabul.



GULBUDDIN HEKMATYAR

Massoud may yet succeed in moving his book collection back to the capital. But peace still seems far away. *(Courtesy Newsweek)*

Croatia to Enter Council of Europe Despite Misgivings

ZAGREB — Croatia becomes the 40th member of the Council of Europe, despite misgivings at home and abroad over whether it qualifies for entry into the pan-European rights body.

The authorities here regard membership of the Strasbourg-based council as the first step towards greater integration with Europe, one of the country's most cherished goals.

Croatia's membership was first approved on April 24 by the Council of Europe's parliamentary assembly, but was put on hold the following month by the council's executive in an unprecedented decision.

In October, after Bosnia's elections, the council decided to admit Croatia judging that it had been cooperative over the Dayton peace accords, had respected human rights and had a "satisfactory" record of cooperation with the International War Crimes Tribunal in The Hague.

A human rights group in Zagreb disagreed Monday, saying that Croatia "has not met all the conditions."

However Zarko Puhovski, deputy head of the Helsinki Committee, said its entry was nonetheless welcome.

"This compromise is necessary because from now on the authorities will be obliged to act like those in democratic countries. With Croatia's entry into the Council of Europe, we will have recourse to the European Court of Human Rights," he said.

The UN Security Council has repeatedly criticized Croatia for its treatment of its Serb minority left in areas recaptured by the army in two lightening offensives last year, saying they are subject to harassment and looting.

However, Croatia is now obliged to ratify the Council of Europe's convention on the treatment of national minorities before October next year.

Press freedom is another area where Croatia has come under fire. In Strasbourg Monday, the Journalists' Association Reporters Sans Frontieres (reporters without borders) accused Croatia of ignoring the council's guidelines.

The authorities "continue to control national radio and television with an iron grip and to pursue the rare independent media," a statement said.

"Tomorrow, they will be able to boast of their membership of the community of democratic European states while continuing to harass dissident or simply impertinent voices."

Croatia has voted into law a bill on freedom of the press. However two journalists on an independent weekly satirical paper are still awaiting an appeal against their acquittal on charges of insulting Croatian President Franjo Tudjman.

Croatia has agreed to ratify the European convention of human rights during the year following its adhesion. (AFP)

Belarus Set to Transfer All Nuclear Missiles to Russia: FM

OSLO — All remaining nuclear missiles in Belarus will be transferred to Russia by the end of the year in accordance with the Lisbon accords, Belarus Foreign Minister Uladzimir Syanko said here recently.

"The Lisbon accords, regulating nuclear missiles on former Soviet territory, conclude that all missiles should be transferred to Russia by 1997. We will ship the last 16 SS-25 long-range nuclear missiles to Russia by the end of this year," Syanko told a press conference.

The two other nuclear states which emerged from the dissolution of the Soviet Union, Kazakhstan and Ukraine, have already transferred their nuclear weapons to Russia.

Syanko met with Norwegian Foreign Minister Bjoern Tore Godal and members of the Parliamentary Committee of Foreign Affairs to discuss bilateral and international issues.

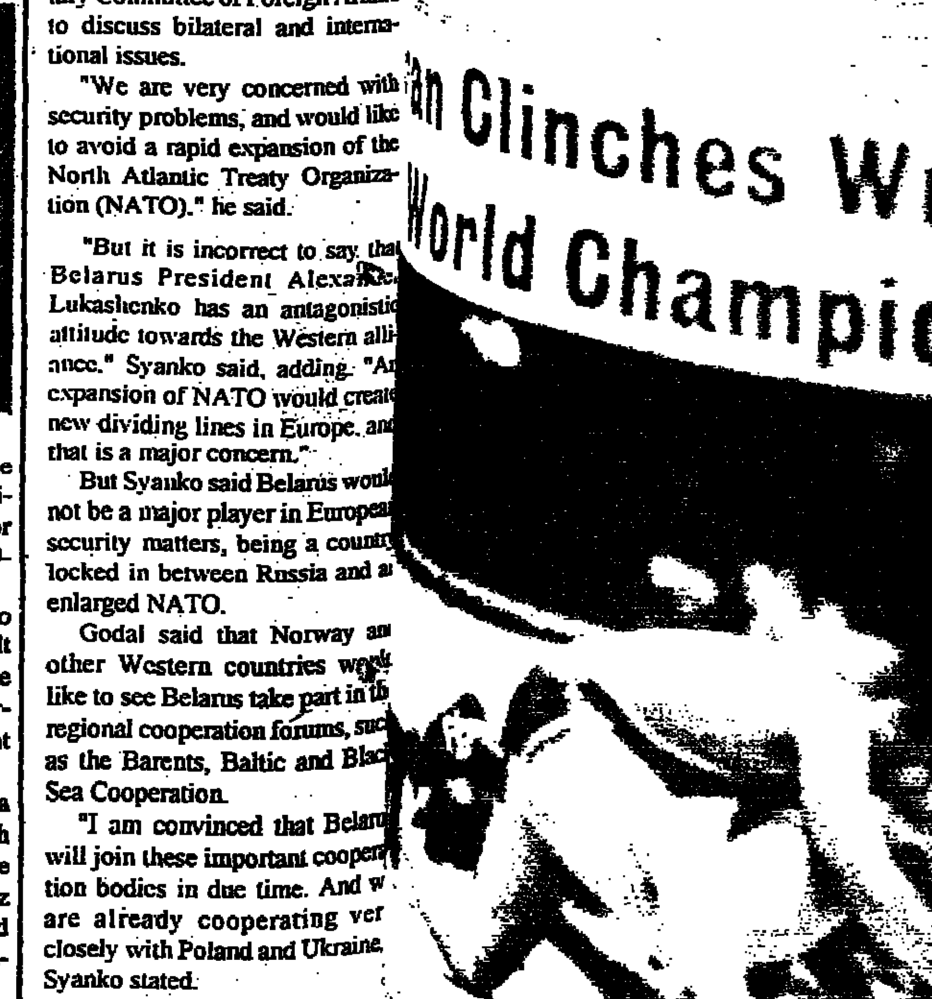
"We are very concerned with security problems, and would like to avoid a rapid expansion of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)," he said.

"But it is incorrect to say that Belarus President Alexander Lukashenko has an antagonistic attitude towards the Western alliance," Syanko said, adding: "An expansion of NATO would create new dividing lines in Europe, and that is a major concern."

But Syanko said Belarus would not be a major player in European security matters, being a country locked in between Russia and an enlarged NATO.

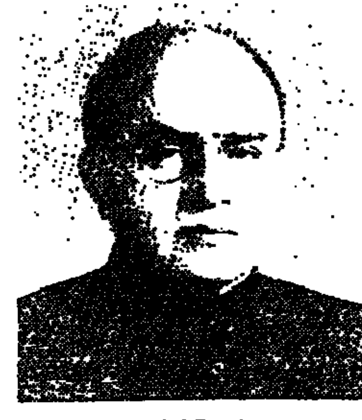
Godal said that Norway and other Western countries would like to see Belarus take part in the regional cooperation forums, such as the Barents, Baltic and Black Sea Cooperation.

"I am convinced that Belarus will join these important cooperation bodies in due time. And we are already cooperating very closely with Poland and Ukraine," Syanko stated. (AFP)



Bhutto Loses Premiership Twice in Six Years

ISLAMABAD — The sacking of Pakistan's first woman Prime Minister, Benazir Bhutto, lost her the country's top post twice in six years, in the latest twist to a stormy 14-year political career.



LEGHARI

Bhutto, 43, was first dismissed in August 1990 by then President Ghulam Ishaq Khan under the constitutional powers which her former ally, President Farooq Ahmed Leghari, has now invoked to end her three-year-old government.

Her first stint started in 1988 after her Pakistan People's Party (PPP) won the first party-based election in Pakistan. But Bhutto lost her grip on power after bloodshed linked to ethnic violence in her southern home Province of Sindh.

Tuesday's proclamation by Leghari also cited, as one of the main reasons for her dismissal, a spate of "extra-judicial" killings over the past three years in Karachi, capital of Sindh and Pakistan's economic hub.

Other reasons given by the president included nepotism, lawlessness and rampant corruption under her administration.

According to official figures around 250 members of the Mohajir Qaumi Movement (MQM), a party representing a large Urdu-speaking settler community in Sindh, were killed in a crackdown in Karachi, where political violence has claimed more than 2,000 lives since the start of 1995.

Bhutto, blaming the MQM for insurgency and terrorism, succeeded in containing violence in the Pakistani commercial capital, but political problems underlying the conflict remained unresolved.



ISHAQ KHAN

The charismatic Oxford-and-Harvard educated leader is known for her bold opposition to late military dictator Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq who toppled her father, former Premier Zulfikar Ali Bhutto in 1977, sending him to the gallows in 1979.



BENAZIR BHUTTO

Bhutto's ouster came a month and a half after her estranged younger brother, Murtaza Bhutto, was killed in Karachi in a police shoot-out which she termed a "conspiracy" against the country's leading political family.

She later said she had fears for the lives of her husband, Asif Ali Zardari, and their three children.

Bhutto was appointed in 1982 by her mother Nusrat Bhutto, who was nominated head of the PPP by Ali Bhutto before his hanging in a jail in nearby Rawalpindi, to look after the party affairs.

After that she remained in detention at Karachi and her native town, Larkana, for more than two years and was later allowed by Zia to go abroad for medical treatment. She returned to Pakistan in April 1986 to a tumultuous mass welcome.

On May 18, 1986 the PPP Central Committee appointed her to co-chair the party with her mother.

Bhutto married Zardari on December 18, 1987 and in late 1988 her political fortunes received a dramatic boost after the death in a mysterious plane crash of Zia, who had ceaselessly hounded the PPP and its leadership.

In late 1988, during the run-up to the first election after the restoration of democracy, Bhutto earned laurels for her great vigor and populist style highlighted by crowd-pulling oratory.

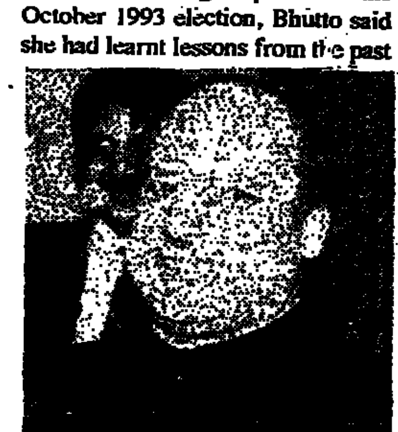


ZIA-UL-HAQ

As she took the oath that year from Ishaq Khan, who then held the presidency, her mother remarked "she looks so vulnerable."

The prophecy came true within two years, when she was dismissed in 1990 in what she then termed a "quasi-military coup."

After returning to power in the October 1993 election, Bhutto said she had learnt lessons from the past



NAWAZ SHARIF

— to maintain rapport with the powerful presidency and the military, which has ruled Pakistan for more than half of the country's 49-year life.

But two years after returning to power the going became difficult for her as she picked a row with the Supreme Court over a verdict curtailing her authority to appoint judges.

In politics, she failed to defuse a bitter running confrontation with the opposition, led by former Prime Minister and her archenemy Nawaz Sharif. The economy faltered and her government became stigmatized by allegations of corruption. (AFP)

